## **IMPEU**

## Comparative analysis report on existing best practices in political inclusion







#### **IMPEU**

## Improving Inclusion of EU Mobile Citizens

Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment

Work package	Title
2	Political inclusion policies for EU mobile citizens and civil servants' training needs
Activity	Title
2.1	Analysing existing best practices/political inclusion policies across EU 28 in facilitating access to EU citizens' rights and transferability assessment
Deliverable	Title
D2.1	Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment















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#### 1. Introduction

The aim of the project Improving Inclusion of EU Mobile Citizens (IMPEU) is to foster political participation of EU mobile citizens and enhance capacity and knowledge of civil servants and relevant national, regional and local experts on EU citizenship and related political rights.

The first phase of the project will focus on the research into best practices on political inclusion policies across the European Union. The project partners will identify obstacles faced by EU mobile citizens when claiming their EU citizenship rights. Finally, they will also analyse civil servants' training needs related to political participation of EU mobile citizens. This will be done through desk research, online surveys, citizens' dialogues and roundtables gathering representatives of policymakers.

Based on that, in the second phase, a needs-based training course will be developed for civil servants and relevant national, regional and local experts. The course will be available on an online training platform, while additional material will be also developed for the trainers to administer and facilitate the delivery of the program. Relevant and tailored information on EU citizenship will be also available for citizens, public officials, civil servants and experts through provision of online information toolkits and establishment of Info Kiosks.

The project is funded by Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Commission and is implemented by:

- Agenzia per lo Sviluppo dell'Empolese Valdelsa (ASEV) Italy
- Institut za Podgotovka na Slujiteliv Mejdunarodni Organizacii Zdruzhenie (ITPIO) Bulgaria
- European Citizen Action Service (ECAS) Belgium
- Astiki Mh Kersoskopiki Etareia Helping Hand (HELPING HAND) Greece
- Dimos Vrilission (MUVRI) Greece
- Magenta Consultoria Projects SI (MAGENTA) Spain

The project started in December 2018 and will finish in November 2020.















#### 2. Methodology

This chapter provides the methodology and the criteria for the identification of best practices. It also lists various types of practices that were considered by the partners in the framework of IMPEU, including public programmes, projects, policies, legislation, strategies, public campaigns, manuals, etc. Finally, also the concept of the transferability assessment is explained.

#### 2.1 Definition of "best practices"

A best practice is commonly defined as a technique or method that, through experience and research, has proven reliably to lead to the desired result.<sup>1</sup> As a result, these practices could be shared and adopted to benefit more people.

In the context of political inclusion policies, a practical definition of a **best practice is knowledge** about what works in specific situations and contexts, and which can be used to develop and implement solutions adapted to similar problems in other situations and countries.

The word "best" should not be necessarily considered in the superlative sense, as term "best practice" does not mean a state of perfection or does not refer to only those practices that have been proven to be faultless and effective in achieving the desired goals. Results may be partial and may be related to only one or more components of the practice being considered. Indeed, documenting lessons learned on also what does not work and why it does not work should be integral parts of best practice evaluation, so that the same mistakes can be avoided by other programmes and projects.

#### 2.2 Criteria for identifying best practices

Best practices should be judged based on the following set of criteria:

- effectiveness
- efficiency,
- sustainability
- transferability assessment
- the involvement of partners
- the involvement of the target group

Table 1: Criteria for identifying best practices

Criteria		Description
Effectiveness	$\oslash$	The practice must work and achieve results that are measurable.
Efficiency	<b>*</b>	The practice must produce results using a reasonable level of resources and time.
Sustainability	6	The practice must be implementable over a period of time with the use of existing resources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.bitpipe.com/tlist/Best-Practices.html (accessed on 1 February 2019)















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Transferability assessment	⇄	The practice should be replicable/transferable elsewhere.
Partnerships		The practice must involve collaboration between several groups of stakeholders.
The involvement of the target group	÷.	The practice must involve the participation of the target group, in case of IMPEU project - mobile EU citizens.

In order to facilitate the evaluation of a practice, the following questions can be used:

#### WHY?

The practice has a clear definition of objectives, activities to be carried out, participants, stakeholders and target groups

#### HOW?

The practice should display consistency between set goals and the activities implemented

#### FOR WHOM?

The practice should demonstrate the active and direct participation of involved target groups

#### WHAT'S THE IMPACT?

The proactice shoud make available the information on outcomes and evaluations at local, regional nd national levels

#### BY WHOM?

The practice should demonstrate collaboration between different institutions, associations and organisations

#### 2.3 Types of best practices included in the report

Best practice could include a public programme, a project, a policy, a piece of legislation, a strategy, public campaign, a manual, etc. In practical terms, best practices identified in the framework of the IMPEU project can include, but are not limited to:

- Policies and initiatives facilitating access to EU citizens' political rights
- Welcoming programs at local level aimed at newly-arriving mobile EU citizens and informing them about their political rights
- Specific **campaigns** run by local/national authorities to inform foreign nationals about their political rights
- Information toolkits about political rights of EU mobile citizens
- Workshops run by municipalities informing mobile EU citizens about their political and civic rights
- Events/conferences on political rights for EU mobile citizens
- Participatory democracy **policy tools** open for both native and foreign EU citizens (participatory budget, consultations, etc.)
- Policies related to housing, schooling, inclusion in the job market, etc. <u>if relevant and linked</u> to political inclusion

When selecting best practices, the activities and projects undertaken by local/regional/national















authorities were given a priority. However, any good practice initiated and run by an NGO (organisations, foundations or associations of mobile EU citizens) and/or other bodies was also taken into account, particularly if it involved participation of official authorities and mobile EU citizens.

#### 2.4 Transferability assessment

Policy transfer can be defined as "a process in which knowledge about policies, administrative arrangements, institutions etc. in one time and/or place is used in the development of policies, administrative arrangements and institutions in another time and/ or place"<sup>2</sup>. Success and failure of policy or practice transfer depend on multiple factors, including political and economic resources of the adopting MS, political willingness, bureaucratic efficiency, similarity in problems and goals, and existing institutional structure of the country adopting the policy or practice.

According to Stead et al.3, some of the factors that can facilitate the transferability are:

- Legal and cultural similarities between the two countries: transferring policies from legally
  and culturally similar settings should be easier to achieve than from countries that are very
  different;
- Prior existence of institutional structure in the adopting country: policy ideas, solutions, models, programs or instruments have to be incorporated in the existing institutional structure of the recipient constituency;
- Existence of strong domestic change agents: committed and creative policy frontrunners are often indispensable in order to achieve desired policy change.

Together with the transferability, also applicability of a policy or practice should be taken into account. While the first measures whether the country adopting a practice can expect similar results, the latter checks whether the practice, once adopted, will work for the receiving country. Following Williams et al<sup>4</sup>. and Buffet et al.<sup>5</sup>, the following framework can be used on order to assess the transferability and applicability of a given policy or practice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Buffet et al., It worked there. Will it work here? a tool for assessing Applicability and Transferability of Evidence, available here (accessed on 8 February 2019)













<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Williams et al., Evaluating the Cross-National Transferability of Policies: A Conceptual Framework, Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship, December 2014, available <a href="here">here</a> (accessed on 8 February 2019)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Stead et al., West-east policy transfer: the case of urban transport policy, 2009, available <u>here</u> (accessed on 8 February 2019)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Williams et al., Evaluating the Cross-National Transferability of Policies: A Conceptual Framework, Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship, December 2014, available <a href="here">here</a> (accessed on 8 February 2019)



Table 2: Transferability and applicability framework

Category	Factors/Criteria	Questions to Ask
Transferability  Can we expect similar results?	Magnitude of issue in target context	<ul> <li>Does the need exist?</li> <li>Is it already addressed by other policies/practices? What is the prevalence of the issue in the local context?</li> </ul>
	Objective of the intervention	<ul> <li>Is the measure targeting the same priority objective in the giving and transferring MS?</li> </ul>
	Magnitude of "reach" vs. cost effectiveness of the measure	<ul> <li>Will the policy/practice "cover" the target group (mobile EU citizens)?</li> <li>Is it proportionate to the costs involved?</li> </ul>
	Target group characteristics	<ul> <li>Are they comparable to the country of origin?</li> <li>Will any differences in characteristic affect implementation of the practice/policy?</li> </ul>
	Availability of all necessary records and supporting documents to be able transfer a GP to other contexts/countries or to scale it up to a broader target population/geographic context	To which extent the implementation results are systematized and documented?
Applicability  Can it work for us?	Political acceptability	<ul> <li>Does the objective of the measure match with political priorities?</li> </ul>
	Social acceptability	<ul> <li>Will the target population be interested in the intervention?</li> </ul>
	Impact on other stakeholders	<ul> <li>Does the measure contradict the interests of any important stakeholders/interest groups?</li> </ul>
	Existing	• Is the measure's potential impact













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institutional/policy infrastructure	contradicting/ cancelling out/overlapping with existing policies/activities?
Available resources	<ul> <li>Financial, human resources, training required? Administrative capacity?</li> </ul>
Other local barriers and implementation risks	<ul> <li>Any factors that can put at risk the implementation, e.g. structural/cultural differences, inefficient institutions, political volatility, social differences?</li> </ul>















#### 3. Overview best practices EU countries

This chapter provides an overview of the best practices in political inclusion of mobile EU citizens identified in the 28 EU Member States. In total, 84 best practices were found, 6 meaning an average of 3 practices per country. The only country where no good practices were identified is Croatia.

The best practices were divided into five groups, depending on the category of stakeholders who initiated or were responsible for the realisation of the practice:

- 1. A governmental body or an electoral council;
- 2. Political parties;
- 3. NGOs or other civil society organisations;
- 4. Local or regional authorities;
- 5. Other stakeholders.

In cases where more actors were involved, the practice was categorised under the group of stakeholders who played the biggest role, for instance, by coordinating the activity.

#### 3.1 Governmental body or electoral council, e.g. governmental websites

In the majority of the EU Member States, EU mobile citizens have an access to a website of the government, of a governmental body or of an electoral council, providing them with general information on the functioning of the country, e.g. main institutions, governmental agencies, elections. The website is usually available in English, in addition to the national language. In Belgium, for instance, the Federal Public Service Home Affairs (IBZ) offers a website with information about the European elections in 24 official languages of the EU.



Figure 1: Website of IBZ

In eight identified Member States<sup>7</sup>, the governments created dedicated websites with information on the municipal and the European elections. Four governments<sup>8</sup> have websites focusing on the European elections only, one (Slovenia) covers only the political system of the country and one (the UK) provides information on the elections and various governmental Most websites provide services. citizens with information on voting rights, elections' dates and the registration procedures (if applicable). Some websites

provide additional information on, for example, voting results, political parties and the location of polling stations.

<sup>8</sup> Belgium, Luxembourg, Romania and Slovakia.













<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Best practices that covered multiple countries were only counted once.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Luxembourg and the UK.



The Irish governmental body has created a <u>Citizens information</u> website, available in Gaelic and English, with the latter being the language that the majority of mobile EU citizens speak, covering various issues, such as the access to social benefits and education, and the rules for the municipal and the European elections. The municipalities of <u>Bratislava</u> (Slovakia) and <u>Copenhagen</u> (Denmark) have websites in English with the information on the elections and on other topics, such as housing and health services. The municipality of <u>Dublin</u> has created a website for mobile EU citizens on living in the city, without, however, providing information on the elections.

An umbrella website of all <u>municipalities in Cyprus</u> provides information in English on the work and competences of the local authorities. Throughout this page, one can also directly access all municipal websites which provide information on the elections and the services offered to citizens.

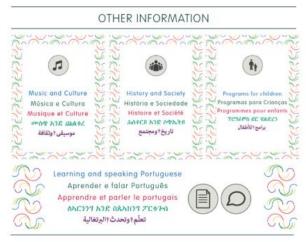


Figure 2 The website ACM in Portugal

<u>Six European cities</u> worked together on creating a toolkit with policy recommendations for other municipalities to be implemented.

<u>Portugal</u> provides information in five languages (Portuguese, English, French, Arabic and Tigrinya) on different topics, including music, culture, history and the society.

Electoral councils in nine Member States<sup>9</sup> were identified to have a website which

provides information on the municipal and European elections in English (and in the main language of the country).

Table 3: An overview of the identified websites providing information to mobile EU citizens

Website of the	Topic of website	Number of websites
Government	Municipal and European Parliament elections	8 (Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Luxembourg, the UK)
	Long-term stay	3 (Latvia, Poland, Slovenia)
	European Parliament elections	4 (Belgium, Luxembourg, Romania, Slovakia)
	Elections and government services	1 (The UK)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden and the UK.















	Political system	1 (Slovenia)
Governmental body	Citizens information (incl. municipal and European Parliament elections)	3 (Denmark, Ireland, Slovakia)
	Work of municipalities	1 (Cyprus)
	Living in the country	2 (Lithuania, the UK)
	Living in the city	1 (Ireland)
	Information guides	1 (Portugal)
	Policy recommendations	1 (the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Germany, Sweden)
Electoral council	Municipal and European Parliament elections	9 (Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, the UK)

Some governments have also dedicated websites with the information on the procedures for obtaining residence and long-term residence documents, for instance <u>Latvia</u>, <u>Poland</u> and <u>Slovenia</u>.

Others provide their mobile EU citizens with information regarding healthcare coverage, social security coordination, importing vehicles, recognition of qualifications, etc. While these practices are not directly related to political rights, we find them important to mention, as they may have a significant impact on the social and economic integration of mobile EU citizens in their host countries, which in turn, may discourage or encourage political participation of mobile EU citizens. A map identifying best practices in this regard has been created by ECAS in the framework of the ACT for Free Movement project and is available here.

#### 3.2 Political parties targeting mobile EU citizens

In ten EU countries, political parties or their candidates have made certain attempts to include mobile EU citizens in their activities and campaigns in order to encourage them to vote. This was done in various forms.

First of all, most of them have a bilingual website or a Facebook page (the 'Coalition of Independents' in <u>Cyprus</u>, Žít Brno in <u>Czech Republic</u>, Socialdemokratiet in <u>Denmark</u>, Liberalų Sąjūdis in <u>Lithuania</u>, City is Ours – City Movements electoral list in <u>Poland</u>, the Bratislava Plan in <u>Slovakia</u>) with an aim to inform mobile EU citizens about their political programmes and to encourage them to vote. In addition, the political parties in the Czech Republic and in Denmark focused actively on mobile EU citizens and their needs during the campaigns.















In <u>Austria</u>, the *Wir im Ersten* party has prepared a campaign poster in five languages, but their website was only available in German. The Green party, *GroenLinks*, organised an election event in English in <u>the Netherlands</u>, inviting also speakers from other parties to present their political views and programmes to Dutch and non-Dutch speakers.

Several political parties provided information on their website on how to register for the elections (The <u>'Coalition of Independents'</u> in Cyprus, <u>Žít Brno</u> in Czech Republic and <u>City is Ours</u> – City Movements electoral list in Poland). One party (*Ecolo* in <u>Belgium</u>) approached citizens on the streets and provided them with an opportunity to fill in a form on the spot in order to register on the electoral roll for the local elections in 2018.

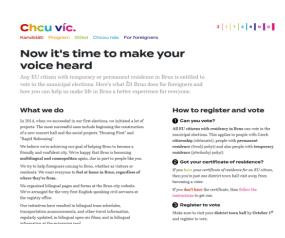


Figure 3: The website of Žít Brno

# Vote in Warsaw for local city activists! WHO WE ARE On a Car I Commission and a coalition of 12 boal grass root moments electoral int (DOW) Masto last Years - Ruthy Megilial is an independent, progressive obtains platform and a coalition of 12 boal grass-root moments representing 16 districts of Vibrasia Vibra are not affiliated with any political party. WHAT WE STAND FOR WHAT WE STAND FOR OUR PROGRAMME 1. Ogns, tolerant and femoli, furnipses city attracting talented protein dispatch and for not corner for Vibrasia. Using the properties of the political agents. OUR PROGRAMME 1. Ogns, tolerant and femoli, furnipses city attracting talented progle from the whole world. 2. More preservely less concrete and applicit 2. We will find allow cutting down frees 4. We will find allow cutting down frees 4. We will find allow cutting down frees.

Figure 4: The website of City is Ours – City Movements electoral list

Table 4: Overview of activities run by political parties targeting EU mobile citizens

Type of activity	Number of political parties/ independent
	candidates
Bilingual website/ Facebook page	6 (Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Lithuania,
	Poland, Slovakia)
Campaigning	3 (Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark)
Informing on the registration process	4 (Cyprus, Czech Republic, Poland, Belgium)
Other	2 (Belgium, the Netherlands)

#### 3.3 NGOs or other organisations targeting mobile EU citizens

Three projects, which fall within the scope of this section, are European umbrella projects with multiple organisations from different Member States involved. In the <u>APProach</u> project, various European municipalities have been working together under the auspices of the European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA). The website of the APProach provides information on three topics: the right to vote, enrolling in school and participating in the local life of the city. We decided to include this specific project under *NGOs or other organisations targeting mobile EU citizens* instead of *authorities actively reaching out to mobile EU citizens* (see 3.4), as the project is led by the















ALDA, which is a European non-governmental organisation dedicated to the promotion of good governance and citizen participation at the local level.

The other two projects in this category – <u>Participation Matters</u> and <u>Operation Vote</u> - are closely related. Operation Vote was carried out in five countries (Austria, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Sweden) between 2012 and 2014. National campaigns were aimed at informing EU citizens about their voting rights for the local and the EP elections during these years. The second part of the project, Participation Matters, ran from 2016 until 2017 in Austria, Italy and Spain. Information manuals on voting rights and procedures in several languages were produced, and guidelines for local authorities were created.



Figure 5: Website of the project Participation Matters



Figure 6: Website of the APProach project

Several NGOs or other organisations are also working on enhancing political participation of mobile EU citizens. <u>Videos with messages</u> from mobile EU citizens, <u>internships</u> in municipalities, <u>events</u>, crowdsourcing mobile EU citizens' opinion and <u>online campaigns</u> are only a few of the examples that were found.<sup>10</sup>

Other two best practices in this category were identified in Luxembourg and Malta. The Luxembourgish organisation <u>ASTI</u> (Support Association for Immigrant Workers) created a website, which includes quizzes and interactive exercises, with an aim to improve knowledge of EU citizens about the elections. <u>The website of the University of Malta</u>, instead, includes information on the elections and the electoral system of the country.



Figure 7: Website of ASTI

An online voting advice tool in English was launched in the <u>Czech Republic</u>, <u>Slovakia</u> and <u>the Netherlands</u> by independent, non-politically affiliated organisations. The tool, providing users with several statements to which they should respond in order to identify a political party that closest matches their views, can be used in the first two countries for the national and the European

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> A detailed overview of the activities can be found in the annex.















elections, while in the Netherlands it was only available in a single municipality.



Figure 8: Website of KohoVolit

In two countries (<u>Austria</u> and <u>Germany</u>) mock elections were organised by NGOs. The elections were focusing on EU citizens, who cannot vote in the national elections and on non-EU with citizens who do not have the right to participate in neither the municipal nor the European elections. In Austria, over 2000 people, representing 76 different nationalities, voted in the mock elections.

Municipal candidates have been present at two elections events that were organised in Finland. The first one – an <u>electoral debate</u> in English - was organised by a broadcasting company and was web-streamed on their channel and on the social media. The second event consisted of a <u>meeting</u> with local municipal candidates of Helsinki. All candidates spoke Finnish, Swedish and English, while translators for other languages were also available. Each candidate presented him/herself and the public was able to freely speak with all the candidates and ask the questions.

Two examples from Spain have been also included in this category. The first one is a <u>guide</u> for immigrants made by a civil society organisation (Observatori Desc) and the other is a <u>study</u> on the political participation of immigrants in the country, conducted by the universities of Seville and Huelva.

Table 5: NGOs/ other organisations targeting mobile EU citizens

Type of activity	Number of NGOs/ other organisations <sup>11</sup>
FAIR EU project	6 (Belgium, Sweden, the Netherlands, Italy)
APProach project	9 (Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, the
	Netherlands, Poland, Portugal)
Operation Vote project	5 (Austria, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden)
Participation Matters project	3 (Austria, Italy, Spain)
Increasing political participation <sup>12</sup> (other than	10 (Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Ireland, Spain,
website)	Sweden)
Website	2 (Luxembourg, Malta)
Online voting tool	2 (Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Slovakia)
Symbolic election	2 (Austria, Germany)
Election event	2 (Finland)
Other	3 (Greece, Spain)

#### 3.4 Authorities actively reaching out to mobile EU citizens

Authorities approach mobile EU citizens in different ways in order to inform them about their voting rights, the upcoming elections and the related procedures. The websites with information in English

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> This includes voting and running for office.













<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Multiple NGOs/ organisations can be active in one country.



are the most common (see <u>3.1</u>), but they require certain degree of proactivity among citizens. However, a few cases were also identified, where local authorities actively reached out to mobile EU citizens in order to provide them with all the necessary information regarding their voting rights. It is usually the municipality, being the closest to citizens of all levels of government, to contact mobile EU citizens, but a higher level of government has been involved in four instances, namely a ministry (<u>Luxembourg</u>), a region (<u>Italy</u>) or a governmental body (<u>Belgium</u> and <u>the Netherlands</u>).

Most authorities are involved in the information campaigns, such as town hall meetings and events with/for mobile EU citizens. Information letters are also sent and leaflets and flyers are spread. One municipality (Barcelona) created videos in different languages in which mobile EU citizens living in



Censa't. La meva ciutat, el meu vot - DE
Figure 9: Videos made by the municipality of
Barcelona

Barcelona encouraged other citizens to register and vote in the municipal and European elections.

The Regional Brussels Government sent letters to all mobile EU citizens, informing them of then-upcoming local elections of October 2018 and explaining how to register. Seven out of 19 Brussels municipalities sent similar letters in French, Dutch and German, while <u>Saint Gilles</u> addressed EU citizens in their mother tongues, and <u>Etterbeek</u> translated the letter to English.

In <u>Italy</u>, a municipality was involved in a bilingual electoral campaign (Italian and Romanian) in order to reach the Romanian community in the area. An election event was organised by a governmental body in <u>the Netherlands</u>, where the politicians from different parties came together to meet mobile EU citizens.

In 2018, the <u>Paris City Hall</u> launched a project <u>INCLUDE</u>, in cooperation with the European Civic Forum and the Young Europeans-France, with an aim to promote the rights of EU citizens and enhance inclusion of non-national EU citizens in the "Parisian civic life". Among others, in December, a European Consultative Council was created. It is composed of 61 mobile EU citizens and works in close cooperation with elected officials of the City of Paris, to whom it proposes opinions and recommendations.

The municipality of <u>Gothenburg</u> did not focus particularly on the issue of political participation, but directed its attention to those EU citizens in the city who were living in social and economic deprivation. From the citizens' dialogues, organised in February 2019 in the framework of the IMPEU, it has become clear that the social and economic situation of citizens can influence their decision not to be politically active, as mobile EU citizens who are in uncertain economic situation may not consider political participation among their life priorities.















Table 6: Authorities actively reaching out to mobile EU citizens

Type of activity	Authorities
Information campaign	Brussels Commissioner (Belgium), municipality of
	Targovishte (Bulgaria), municipality of Popovo
	(Bulgaria), municipality of Sandanski (Bulgaria),
	municipality of Blagoevgrad (Bulgaria), city of
	Cork (Ireland), the ministry of Family Affairs,
	Integration and the Greater Region
	(Luxembourg), Tuscany region (Italy),
	municipality of Arezzo (Italy), the Barcelona City
	Council (Spain)
Information letters	Municipality of Etterbeek (Belgium), municipality
	of Sint-Gilles (Belgium)
Bilingual electoral campaign	Municipality of Riano (Italy)
Election event	Holland Expat Center (the Netherlands)
Other	Municipality of Gothenburg

#### 3.5 Other

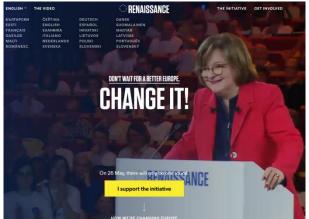


Figure 10: Website of the Renaissance

In the category *other*, five examples were classified. In <u>Bulgaria</u>, regional electoral commissions provided training to members of the local electoral commissions, while the municipality of <u>Lisbon</u> (Portugal) included on its website a banner in English, French and Portuguese, encouraging foreigners to register for the 2019 European elections.

A website with a political theme was developed in <u>Germany</u> (in German and English) to increase children's interest in political and civic

participation. In <u>France</u>, president Emmanuel Macron launched a website "for a European renaissance" available in 24 languages, with an aim to "transform Europe by involving European citizens from all over the EU to sign up for the initiative, let their voice be heard and to 'rebuild Europe".

Another practice comes from <u>Greece</u>, where the European Parliament Office has held an event to provide citizens in Greece with information about their rights to participate in the European elections.















Table 7: Overview of best practices in EU Member States

Country	Governmental body or electoral	Political parties targeting	NGOs or other organisations targeting mobile	actively reaching out	Other
	council, e.g. governmental websites	mobile EU citizens	EU citizens <sup>13</sup>	to mobile EU citizens	
Austria	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Belgium	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Bulgaria	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Croatia <sup>14</sup>	No	No	No	No	No
Cyprus	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Czech Republic	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Denmark	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Estonia	Yes	No	No	No	No
Finland	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
France	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Germany	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Greece	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Hungary	Yes	No	No	No	No
Ireland	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Italy	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Latvia	Yes	No	No	No	No
Lithuania	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Luxembourg	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Malta	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Netherlands	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Poland	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Portugal	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Romania	Yes <sup>15</sup>	No	No	No	No
Slovakia	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Slovenia	Yes	No	No	No	No
Spain	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Sweden	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Yes	No	No	No	No
Total	22 Yes	10 Yes	19 Yes	8 Yes	4 Yes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> In addition to the website of the Electoral Council, they also had a video broadcasted on national television.













 $<sup>^{13}</sup>$  This can include an event with politicians if it was organised and initiated by an NGO or other organisations and politicians acted in the role of participants/observers

14 No examples of best practices were found for Croatia



#### 3. Analysis & transferability

In this chapter, the best practices are analysed in terms of their effectiveness and transferability. As in total 84 examples were found, this section will provide only a general analysis and will not focus on individual practices. Details regarding each specific practice can be found in the Annex.

#### 3.1 Governmental body or electoral council, e.g. governmental websites

Websites are one of the most commonly used tools by local and national governments to provide mobile EU citizens with information on their political rights and related electoral procedures. However, as these tools are rarely advertised, they require mobile EU citizen to be proactive enough and have already certain knowledge in order to find the necessary information. In other words, if mobile EU citizens are unaware that they can participate in the local elections, why they would look online for the information regarding the procedures?

In most cases there are no publicly available details on the number of visits to these pages, so it is impossible to know whether and to what extent these websites have succeeded in targeting mobile EU citizens, and whether the information has been perceived as useful. It is thus difficult to assess their effectiveness and efficiency. However, an advantage of these websites is that they provide general information which does not require frequent updates. Therefore, the production of similar websites is usually a one-time investment with limited resources required, and the content can be used and re-used throughout the years.

Having said that, we believe that the practice of developing a website in foreign languages, preferably in English, is easily transferable and can be replicated by other Member States. As the majority of EU countries already have such a webpage available in English, this practice can also be expanded, for instance, by adding more foreign languages. In this regard, the government of <a href="Belgium">Belgium</a> provides the best example with a website that was available in 24 languages (for the time of elections), so it reached out to mobile EU citizens of all nationalities.

#### 3.2 Political parties targeting mobile EU citizens

Some political parties involve mobile EU citizens in their activities or campaigns and take an active approach in order to reach out to them. As the information regarding the actual campaigns (the way they were conducted, how many citizens were informed, etc.) is usually not publicly available, it may be difficult to assess how successful they were in targeting mobile EU citizens.

However, a bilingual campaign addressing problems that are experienced by mobile EU citizens may bring good results in terms of EU mobile citizens' mobilisation, with relatively low costs involved. The local media often provides an additional coverage for the actions of the parties, contributing on its own to raising awareness among mobile EU citizens.

The practices we identified in this category took place in a rather isolated form, for example in a few Belgian municipalities. It is clearly not a common practice, but it should not be undermined, given its effectiveness and not elevated costs.

The websites of the political parties are usually available in English, in addition to the main















language(s) of the country, and include practical information on the registration process. They can be helpful for mobile EU citizens but, as in case of the governmental websites, they require citizens to be proactive and have an ability to look for the information. Taking this shortcoming into account, a website of the political party available in multiple languages can be an effective and cheap tool to encourage mobile EU citizens to vote and give them a better idea of the political parties which are active in the host Member State. For instance, a political party in **Czech Republic** targeted specifically EU citizens during its campaign and proposed changes in the city council that were relevant for foreigners.

A bilingual campaign is relatively easy to conduct and it might encourage mobile EU citizens to not only vote, but also to stand as candidates themselves. This could then create a snowball effect, with more EU citizens becoming political active over time. In this context, Narcis George Matache<sup>16</sup> is an excellent example. As a Romanian he was elected first deputy in the regional council in North Jutland, Denmark. He ran a bilingual campaign with a focus on international voters, and encouraged EU citizens to vote and stand as candidates.



The Yle News #useyourvote election debate is streamed live online via Yle Areena, yle.fi/news and on Facebook. Video: Yle

As first deputy, he is also planning to create an academy for mobile EU citizens to help them become more politically active. Figure 11: Election debate organised by Yle News

The <u>Vote Brussels</u> campaign worked with various political parties which wanted to include mobile EU citizens on their lists. At the end, 300 mobile EU citizens run as candidates for the local election in October 2018. <sup>17</sup>

#### 3.3 NGOs or other organisations targeting mobile EU citizens

The best practices identified in this category differ considerably in terms of the organisational and financial costs. Therefore, the transferability of these practices should be analysed by taking into account the financial capabilities and priorities of a given organisation.

In this regard, we would like to mention, in particular, the organisation of <u>mock elections</u> as a tool to raise awareness and empower mobile EU citizens. A similar practice doesn't have to be necessarily complicated or costly, especially if online voting methods are involved.

On the other hand, organisation of **political debates** may require certain costs, especially if broadcasting time needs to be purchased. Therefore, the transferability of this practice will depend to a great extent on the financial capabilities of the organisation. However, the costs can be significantly limited, if the debate is broadcasted through social media or on a public online platform.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Thomas Huddleston, *The Citizens of the Capital of Europe Evaluation of Voter Registration in Brussels and the VoteBrussels campaign*, available <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> (accessed on 20 June 2019)













<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> The Local dk, *EU citizens don't realise they have a vote: Romanian candidate in Danish election*, available <u>here</u> (accessed on 1 May 2019)



Another initiative in this category includes the organisation of an <u>internship</u> scheme for members of the migrant community. The transferability of the practice will however depend on the financial and organisational resources of a given municipality, as well as on the political climate and of the local governing party.

Despite these challenges, we believe the above-mentioned practices should be promoted, as they have been proven successful in raising awareness on political rights among mobile EU citizens. At the same time, we need to keep in mind that awareness-raising is a long process, which may not have an immediate impact on the number of mobile EU citizens registered for the elections, but will bring results in the long-term.

There is also the difference between local and nationwide initiatives. It might be harder to achieve results within the whole country than in one or a couple of municipalities. Furthermore, the type, the size and the outreach possibilities of an organisation should be also considered. Smaller NGOs with local impact, e.g. ZigZag in Sweden, are more limited in their capabilities than bigger ones, e.g. SOS Mitmensch in Austria.

As stated before, most initiatives that were found under this category can be replicated, but the decision to do so should be based on a clear needs-analysis, availability of the resources and the legal framework of each country. In Belgium, for example, <a href="VoteBrussels">VoteBrussels</a> was focusing on promoting voter registration. The same campaign would not bring results in the Netherlands, as all the citizens are registered automatically on the electoral roll.

#### 3.4 Authorities actively reaching out to mobile EU citizens

Authorities have been reaching out to mobile EU citizens in different ways and applying different levels of effort. Some municipalities have sent information letters in several languages to EU citizens to inform them about the upcoming elections (e.g. <a href="Etterbeek">Etterbeek</a> and <a href="Sint-Gilles">Sint-Gilles</a> in Belgium), while the others organised events, workshops and provided audio-visual materials (e.g. <a href="Barcelona">Barcelona</a> in Spain). It differs also from country to country to what extent the activities happened on local or national level.

In <u>Luxembourg</u>, for example, an awareness campaign covered the whole country, while in <u>Italy</u> the activities were limited to certain municipalities. In general, the best practices found in this category were rather limited in their territorial scope. This shows that there is still a lot of work to be done when it comes to the involvement of local/national authorities in reaching out to mobile EU citizens.















Figure 12: Website icanvote in Luxembourg

Some initiatives are still ongoing and therefore their effectiveness and efficiency cannot be assessed at this stage. For other practices, not enough data is available to draw the conclusions. However, in Luxembourg, despite the fact that no results of the previous awareness campaign were communicated, the government decided to repeat the practice for the 2019 European elections. This could indicate that the previous activities were assessed positively and were thus worth to be repeated.

The initiatives that were carried out by the authorities can be replicated in other Member States and even expanded within the countries themselves. A bilingual information campaign can be set up by a national authority or by various local authorities, and municipalities can send information letters in several languages to all citizens. Coordination between different levels of government can ease the financial and organisational burden. Authorities can also involve political parties in the process and create opportunities for EU citizens to meet politicians and candidates.

#### **3.5 Other**

The regional electoral commissions in <u>Bulgaria</u> provided training to members of the local electoral commissions. The results of this training are yet unknown, but provision of training can be very valuable, especially when participants' knowledge of EU citizens' rights is limited. The idea can be even further expanded by providing trainings also to civil servants dealing with mobile EU citizens.

In Portugal, the municipality of <u>Lisbon</u> published a banner on its website in three languages, addressing foreign voters to register for the upcoming European elections. As already mentioned, this type of activity requires an active approach from mobile EU citizens and only those who actually visit the website of the municipality will be able to receive the information. This unfortunately lowers the effectiveness of the practice. To replicate this example and increase its effectiveness, municipalities should go beyond posting the banner, for example they could either deliver it to all citizens or actively promote it in public spaces and though social media channels.















The aim of the political themed website in <u>Germany</u> (available in German and English) is to improve citizens' interest in politics from an early age. Replication of this practice and creation of similar websites should be encouraged, especially given that civic education is one of the priority areas for the European cooperation in education and training. As the website is already available in English, it can be easily used in other English-speaking countries or during English lessons. The website can also be translated into other languages or Member States can produce similar resources based on the German tool.

#### 4. Recommendations

The last chapter provides recommendations based on the best practices identified in the different Member States.

Municipalities can be more active in trying to enhance political participation of mobile EU citizens, see for example the initiatives taken by the authorities of <a href="Barcelona">Barcelona</a> and <a href="Cork City">Cork City</a>. Activities can take different forms, but should be based on a proactive attitude from the local government. They can include, for instance, sending information letters, organising events with politicians and running local campaigns. In addition, websites of municipalities should be at least available in English.



Figure 13: Website of the Federal Centre for Political Education

With regard to Member States where voters need to register, municipalities and the government should actively and on a regular basis inform EU citizens, at least, in English. This can be done by sending letters or providing newcomers with all the necessary details when they register their residence at the municipality for the first time.

Municipalities can also create a multilingual 'desk' or a kiosk, where mobile EU citizens could go with all their questions regarding their stay in the host country, health care, housing and political participation. Such a desk can be either online, physical or both. Civil servants managing this desk should be properly trained in order to provide concrete and accurate information.

Municipalities should join forces with NGOs and other civil society organisations working with mobile EU citizens and foreigners. They usually have already developed a good understanding of where mobile EU citizens can be found, what their problems are and how they should be approached. The collaboration can take various forms, including financial and technical support, sharing knowledge/ expertise, etc.

Political parties should be more aware of the existence of mobile EU citizens in their countries. Most of them ignore that fact and fail to reach the foreigners, even in the municipalities where EU mobile citizens constitute a significant part of the population, e.g. 36.7% in Etterbeek in the Brussels-Capital region. A bilingual campaign and a website or events with local politicians could help improve political inclusion of EU mobile citizens.

https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/1/2018/EN/COM-2018-23-F1-EN-MAIN-PART-1.PDF













D2.1 Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment

#### Annex















#### **Austria**

#### **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Wir im Ersten

http://www.wir-im-ersten.at/blog/

More info: Fair EU country report Austria

Country

**Austria** Vienna

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The political party Wir im Ersten.

**Description of the practice** 

Which problem does the practice address?

The political party *Wir im Ersten* focused not only on Austrian citizens, but also on EU citizens during the Vienna District Council elections in 2010 and 2015. There are EU citizens living in Vienna (and the might not all speak German) and their vote can help gaining seats.

What is the key goal of the practice?

The political party aimed at involving EU citizens in the Vienna District Council elections and encouraging them to vote.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Inform EU citizens about the Vienna District Council elections and the programme of the political party *Wir im Ersten*.

Target group

All eligible voters in the First District of Vienna, including EU citizens.

Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?

In 2015, the party ran a poster campaign in four languages (English, French, German and Italian).

When and where were the activities carried out?

The activities were carried out in 2010 and 2015 during the campaign for the Vienna District Council elections.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?















The political party Wir im Ersten was involved and that includes volunteers.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Yes, one of the candidates for the elections was someone with French nationality. This person was elected in 2010.

#### **Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice**

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

During both elections in 2010 and 2015, the party managed to get two seats (from the 40). One of the two elected persons in 2010 had the French nationality.

#### Was the practice efficient?

It is difficult to say in terms of time and money, but as the party managed to get two seats in both elections and one of the elected had the French nationality in 2010, the answer is yes.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Yes, this practice could be easily replicated in other Member States. Political parties can translate their campaign posters in other languages, the most important one probably being English and put them in places where they know a lot of EU citizens come (e.g. offices, cultural centres).

#### Other information

Any other relevant information













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#### **Identifying information**

#### Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

Symbolic vote

https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/10/austria-symbolic-vote-pushes-171010134328343.html https://www.thelocal.at/20151007/greens-win-pass-egal-vote-in-vienna

Country City

Austria Five cities in Austria, including Vienna.

#### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

SOS Mitmensch, a human rights group based in Vienna.

#### **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

Voting in the election of the Austrian National Council is only reserved for persons who hold the Austrian citizenship. In Vienna live 18.000 EU citizens who are not allowed to participate in this election. Another 220.000 people are from outside the EU and do not have any voting rights.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

To raise awareness for the fact that not all citizens in Austria are eligible to vote and to give these a chance to cast a symbolic vote and make them feel included.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

To raise awareness for the fact that EU citizens cannot vote in the Austrian National Council and that non-EU citizens do not have any voting rights.

#### **Target group**

People living in Austria without the right to participate in the Austrian National Council elections, including EU citizens.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

In five cities in Austria, people could cast their symbolic vote for the Austrian National Council.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The symbolic election for the Austrian National Council was carried out in five cities five days before the 'real' election.

#### Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The human rights group SOS Mitmensch organised the symbolic elections and was helped by volunteers.













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#### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

It is unknown whether any of the volunteers were mobile EU citizens. The EU mobile citizens did participate in the symbolic elections.

#### **Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice**

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Over 2000 people voted in the symbolic elections, having 76 different nationalities. In Vienna, 1223 persons casted their vote. The largest group of voters was German, followed by those with the Italian nationality.

#### Was the practice efficient?

The symbolic election did not lead to more voting rights for EU citizens and non-EU citizens, but did make the issue more visible. There was media coverage (e.g. Al Jazeera) and so the message reached people inside and outside Austria. In this sense, the practice was efficient.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Symbolic elections can relatively easily be organised in other Member States. It will draw the attention of the (local) media and will put the issue of voting rights in the spotlight. It can also create a discussion in a Member State in which elections EU (and non-EU) citizens should be allowed to vote.

#### Other information

Any other relevant information















#### Belgium

#### **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Information letter

https://www.bruzz.be/brussel-kiest/brussel-kiest-sint-gillis/sint-gillis-stuurde-expats-brieven-26-talen-2018-08-17

Country

Belgium Sint-Gilles/ Saint-Gilles

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The municipality of Sint-Gilles.

#### **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

In Belgium, EU citizens need to register in order to be able to vote for the municipality elections and the election of the European Parliament. Not all EU citizens are aware of this or do not know how and when to register.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

The municipality of Sint-Gilles sent their EU citizens, who had not registered yet for the elections, an information letter about the upcoming municipality elections (2018) in their mother tongue. The aim of the letter was to get people registered before the deadline. Once registered people in Belgium are obliged to go voting. The municipality also wanted to make matters easier and show respect.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Inform EU citizens about the upcoming municipal elections and the registration process and encourage them to register.

#### **Target group**

EU and non-EU citizens living in Sint-Gilles that were not registered yet for the municipality elections.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The municipality of Sint-Gilles sent their EU-citizens an information letter about the upcoming municipality elections (2018) in their mother tongue.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The letters were sent to EU citizens living in Sint-Gilles and were sent in advance of the municipal elections of 2018.















Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The local municipality of Sint-Gilles.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens were only on the receiving end and were passive participations.

#### **Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice**

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

In August 2018, 3200 EU citizens were registered and 700 non-EU citizens. It was an increase of three per cent.

#### Was the practice efficient?

Yes. Translating letters with information about the registration process into the mother tongue of the citizens is something that only needs to be done once. Afterwards, the same letters can be used for other elections. For the municipality this is a onetime investment with a lot of prospects for the future. Thanks to the letter, the number of registered EU citizens also increased.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

For municipalities it is a onetime investment to translate information about elections and registration processes in different languages. Sending letters directly addresses the citizens, which is effective when conveying important information. The same information can also be made available on the website of the (local) authorities and the number of people reached will be even higher.

Other information

Any other relevant information













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#### **Identifying information**

#### Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Registration box

https://www.bruzz.be/politiek/gezien-elsense-groenen-trekken-naar-expats-met-voting-box-2018-

05-11

Country City

Belgium Elsene/Ixelles

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Ecolo, the Green party of Elsene/Ixelles.

**Description of the practice** 

#### Which problem does the practice address?

In 2012 only 11 per cent of the expat community in Elsene/Ixelles voted in the municipal elections. A municipal councillor from Ecolo stated that expats do not know they have to register in order to be able to vote.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

The Green party of Elsene/Ixelles, Ecolo, went in 2018 out in the commune by bike with a registration box. They addressed passers-by with the question whether they were already registered for the municipal elections of that year. If not, people could fill in a registration form on the spot. Ecolo delivered all forms at the municipality. The bike drove around in the streets of Elsene/Ixelles from May until July.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

To inform passers-by about the upcoming municipal elections and the requirement to register in order to be able to vote. Informing people about the registration process was linked to this, but of less importance as the process was taken out of the hands of the passers-by by Ecolo.

#### **Target group**

The expat community in Ixelles, including EU citizens.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

Members of the political party Ecolo went out in the community by bike with a registration box and registration forms that could be filled in immediately by people who were interested.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The bike drove around in the streets of Elsene/Ixelles from May until July 2018.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?













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The political party, Ecolo.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens were approached on the streets and asked whether they were already registered for the upcoming elections and if not whether they wanted to register on the spot.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Ecolo collected the registration forms and delivered them at the commune, but the number of collected forms was not published. Ecolo can probably provide this information when asked.

#### Was the practice efficient?

We do not know how many people registered themselves with the help of the registration box, but as the bike was spotted in the streets for three months, we can assume a certain number of people filled in the forms. There was also media coverage of the action, which could also have helped raising awareness. The bike with a registration box went to the citizens and the registration process was in this way made easier for the EU citizens.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It is a playful action that raises awareness, increases the visibility of a political party and helps people with the registration process on the spot. This can also be replicated by municipalities in Member States where the voter registration is low. Actively approaching citizens might give voters the push they need to become political active.

Other information

Any other relevant information













D2.1 Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment

#### **Identifying information**

#### Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

VoteBrussels and FAIR EU project

https://twitter.com/votebrussels

http://www.commissioner.brussels/i-am-an-expat/communal-elections-2018/121-communal-

elections-2018/679-political-participation-678-679-679

Country

Belgium Brussels

#### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

VoteBrussels is led by Migration & Policy Group and co-founded by the Rights, Equality & Citizenship Programme 2014-2020 of the European Union (FAIR EU project led by ECAS).

#### **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

Obstacles to freedom of movement and political participation of mobile EU citizens.

The participation of the international community in the municipal and European Parliament elections by non-Belgians is low. In 2018, only 17,3% of this group registered themselves for the elections. Without registration, people are not allowed to vote. Only 20% of the people who not registered said they were not interested. This shows that the low registration rate is not due to a lack of interest.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

The aim of the FAIR EU is to foster the successful inclusion of EU mobile citizens in their host EU country's civic and political life. The campaign VoteBrussels focused particularly on the international community in Brussels for the municipality elections of 2018. At the moment, they are focusing on the elections of the European Parliament in May 2019. The aim is to make people aware of their right to vote, to encourage them to register for the elections and use their voting right.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Research into obstacles to free movement and political rights and outreach to mobile EU citizens through crowdsourcing.

Informing EU and non-EU citizens about their right to vote, the registration process and actively encouraging them to use their voting right.

#### **Target group**

Mobile EU citizens

Implementation of the practice















#### What were the main activities carried out?

Activities include research into obstacles to free movement and political rights, evidence-based recommendations, a citizen-oriented crowdsourcing exercise.

The campaign VoteBrussels is using Twitter to spread their message. They also have a website where information about the registration process and the elections can be found. They also created tests for social media to making voting fun.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The FAIR EU covers the whole EU, some specific activities were organized in certain MS, e.g. Portugal, Ireland, Luxembourg, France, Belgium. The project started in 2018 and run until June 2019.

The Vote Brussels campaign was carried out in the months before the municipal elections of 2018. Currently, the campaign is focusing itself on the EP elections that will take place in May 2019. The campaign focuses itself on the city of Brussels.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Volunteers, CSOs, universities, local and EU decision-makers and authorities.

#### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Volunteers are involved in the campaign, some of which probably are mobile EU citizens. Through their network the campaign employees also ask to spread the message in their network, reaching more people.

Mobile EU citizens participated in the crowdsourcing and the focus groups.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

VoteBrussels doubled the voter registration for non-Belgians in five months (25.000 new voters).

#### Was the practice efficient?

The voter registration was doubled in five months. This is efficient when looking at the type of campaign (social media, website and volunteers) that was launched.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Some activities of the FAIR EU can be easily replicated, e.g. the focus groups or surveys targeting mobile EU citizens. The Vote Brussels campaign used limited resources with significant results. It was based on the work of volunteers to a great extent and used existing events for the promotion













D2.1 Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment

purposes, so it should be easily replicable it in another context and other Member States.				
Other information				
Any other relevant information				

Identifying information		
Name of the practice/policy/initiative	e	
Website		
Information letter for the EP elections	;	
Country	City	
Belgium	Etterbeek	

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The municipality of Etterbeek.

#### **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

In Belgium, EU citizens need to register in order to be able to vote for the election of the European Parliament. Not all citizens are aware of this or known how the registration process works including the deadlines for registering.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

The municipality of Etterbeek sent their citizens an information letter about the upcoming EP elections (2019) in English and the national languages French, Dutch and German. They included the registration form, but this one was only available in French and Dutch.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Inform the citizens about the upcoming EP elections and the registration procedure. The aim was to encourage people to register for the elections.

#### **Target group**

Citizens, including EU-citizens, living in Etterbeek.

Implementation of the practice













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#### What were the main activities carried out?

Sending an information letter in English to EU-citizens. The registration form was only in French and

When and where were the activities carried out?

The information letter was sent in February 2019 to citizens in the municipality of Etterbeek.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The local authority of Etterbeek.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens were only on the receiving end.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is too early to tell whether sending the letter had an effect on the number of voter registrations.

#### Was the practice efficient?

Yes and no. The practice was efficient in the sense that EU citizens without knowledge of the national languages of the country were able to understand the information as it was also in English. However, if they wanted to fill in the registration form, they experienced trouble since the form was not in English.

#### Transferability assessment

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The practice of sending an information letter to EU citizens and informing them about the upcoming elections and the registration process in English can be easily replicated. Translating this information is a onetime investment and can also be used for the website of the municipality. To make it an even better practice, also the registration form should be translated to smooth the process even more. The documents can then be reused for every new election.

#### Other information















## **Identifying information**

## Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

**I VOTE** 

http://www.commissioner.brussels/i-am-an-expat/communal-elections-2018

Country City

Belgium **Brussels** 

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Brussels Commissioner (the Brussels Commissioner for Europe and International Organisations (CEIO) was appointed by the Brussels government in December 2014).

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice addresses?

More than 210,000 mobile EU citizens live in Brussels' 19 communes, representing a quarter of the electorate. Yet, their political participation in local elections remains limited. Only 13.57% registered for the local elections in 2012.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

The initiative aimed at improving political participation and political inclusion of mobile EU citizens in local elections in Brussels-Region.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- Informing about the local elections in Belgium in October 2018
- Awareness-raising about the importance to vote
- Providing information on registration procedures and deadlines
- Providing information on eligibility requirements

#### **Target group**

Mobile EU citizens living in Brussels-Capital region.

## Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

- Website with information on registration procedures and deadlines
- Information toolkit (FAQ)
- Information campaigns during various formal and informal events gathering EU mobile citizens
- **Expat Welcome Desk**

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The Brussel Commissioner runs its activities, such as Expat Welcome Desk, on a regular basis. The















information campaign for the local elections started a few months before the elections and finished in October 2018.

The activities took place only in the region of Brussels-Capital.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Brussels Commissioner office cooperated with civil society organisations, including MPG and Objectif. It also joined the <u>Vote Brussels campaign</u>, which was part of the <u>FAIR EU</u> project, and supported its activities, for instance, during the outreach event in the European institutions. The office of the Commissioner was also cooperating with municipalities as regards providing the correct information on the registration procedures.

## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

The officer of the Commissioner is in regular contact with mobile EU citizens, through its Expat Welcome Desk. The team of the Commissioner was present during the campaign in the European institutions, providing mobile EU citizens with information on their right to vote. Discussions and meetings with mobile EU citizen were also held.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The activities undertaken by the Brussels Commissioner contributed to an increase in the number of EU mobile citizens who registered for local elections. In Brussels Capital region an overall increase of 23 percent of EU mobile citizens who registered to vote was recorded<sup>19</sup>. It is difficult to establish how many EU mobile citizens registered only thanks to the campaign run by the Brussels Commissioner.

#### Was the practice efficient?

There is no data on the actual cost of the campaign, but we can consider it efficient given that it managed to contribute to an increase in registration numbers. In just a few months, between March and August, the numbers of voters doubles to reach 49,406<sup>20</sup>.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It would be relatively easy to conduct similar information campaigns in other Member States, especially in those cities, where many mobile EU citizens reside. All the documents and tools developed for this campaign are still available on the Commissioner's website so they could be easily adapted to local needs and translated.

Other information

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.













<sup>19</sup> http://www.elections.fgov.be

D2.1 Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment

## Any other relevant information

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

**IBZ-** European elections

https://europeanelections.belgium.be/node/111305

Country

Belgium N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Federal Public Service Home Affairs (IBZ).

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

In Belgium, EU citizens need to register in order to be able to vote for the election of the European Parliament. Not all citizens are aware of this or known how the registration process works including the deadlines for registering.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform EU mobile citizens about their right to vote and the registration procedure in the country.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing EU mobile citizens about the European elections in May 2019:

- -who can vote,
- -how to vote,
- -how to register for the elections.

The information is available in the 24 official languages of the EU.

## **Target group**

European mobile citizens.

## Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

A website with information about the European elections in the 24 official languages of the EU.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all persons with internet access and is available for, at least, the duration















of the campaign.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Federal Public Service Home Affairs (IBZ).

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive users of the information provided on the website.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people the website reached, but the website is mentioned on websites of different municipalities in Belgium.

Was the practice efficient?

The information on the website can be used in the future as only the dates need to be updated. Promoting the website on websites of municipalities also helps reaching people who have not heard of this. Not all municipalities present the website equally clear, so here is room for improvement.

**Transferability assessment** 

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The practice of creating a website for mobile EU citizens in the 24 official languages of the EU is a practice than can be replicated. Translating the information is a onetime investment and can also be used for the websites of the municipalities. With every new election the website can be reused. As the information is available in 24 languages all mobile EU citizens are being involved.

Other information















# Bulgaria

# **Identifying information**

## Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

https://www.thistimeimvoting.bg/?recruiter\_id=29147

Country

Bulgaria Sofia

Plovdiv

Velingrad

#### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Home of Europe St Georgi Rakovski 124 Sofia 1000 Bulgaria

Information Centre "Europe Direct - Plovdiv",

**Education for Democracy Centre** 

Programme "Schools Ambassadors for the EP"

#### **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Youth voter turnout is very low in our society. Young people today do not feel particularly important in society. An explanation maintained by older people is that young people are lazy. But it is not particularly enduring. Today's young people are more involved in voluntary activities than older people; they are much better educated, as well.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

- To make young people to be more active in political life;
- To motivate them to exercise their right to vote;
- To note that their voice is significant;
- To make them more involved and interested about their future;
- To forward the interest of those young people who are interested in their rights ahead;
- To reverse the trend of lack of interest in the involvement of young people in the theme of mobile citizens 'rights;
- To be informed that there is nothing complicated in voting (even if you are resident citizen).

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- Encourage and enhancing participation of citizens in the democratic life of the EU, by making and sharing videos of young people, who are willing to vote and who share that their vote is important and significant.
- To give information of where and how can people participate in the process of voting.
- How to learn more about the main topics of the European elections.















#### **Target group**

Young people from Bulgaria

EU Mobile citizens - In Bulgaria there about 31 500 Mobile citizens, from which 25 % are from EU Member-States (30% UK; 14% Greece; 10% Germany; 9,4% Poland, 5,4% Italy and others). The most common reasons for residence are as follows:

- Family and living;
- Education;
- Work and business;
- Others

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

A video was launched on the television and it became popular, which is a prerequisite for increased outreach to society, and hence reaching a greater number of people.

#### **Events**

1) "This time I am voting" event will present the successes and challenges in the current development of the EU. Information will be given for the forthcoming European Parliament elections and opportunities for information and participation. Information will be given on forthcoming European Parliament elections and on information and participation opportunities. Young people will have the opportunity to get acquainted with the platforms #ThisTimeImVoting and what Europe does for me.

Young people will be able to ask questions, give their opinion, express their challenges and talk about what they are interested in.

2) Discussion with students on the topic "What does Europe do for me?". The meeting will be presented information centre "Europe Direct – Plovdiv", the Network "Europe Direct" and the services they offer to citizens as well as the platforms #ThisTimeImVoting and what Europe does for me. The event will also present the successes and challenges in the current development of the EU, as well as information about the forthcoming elections to the European Parliament and opportunities for information and participation.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

Event № 1 was on 20<sup>th</sup> March, from 13:30 p.m. at High school of Economics and Tourism "Aleko Konstantinov" in Velingrad on topic "This time I am voting". The event will present the successes and challenges in the current development of the EU. Information will be given for the forthcoming European Parliament elections and opportunities for information and participation.

Event № 2 will be on March 28, 2019, from 10.30 a.m. at the 7th audience of "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv, Plovdiv, organized by Information centre "Europe Direct – Plovdiv", Faculty of Economic it Social Sciences "at the University of Paisii Hilendarski" and Center "Education for Democracy".

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?















- University of Paisii Hilendarski", Plovdiv
- High school of Economics and Tourism "Aleko Konstantinov" in Velingrad;
- Home of Europe St Georgi Rakovski 124 Sofia 1000 Bulgaria

# Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

The video, launched on Bulgarian National Television reached many people. The information of the video is both in Bulgarian and in English as it refers the website <a href="https://www.thistimeimvoting.eu/">https://www.thistimeimvoting.eu/</a> and includes the same information. Everyone can visit the website and be informed about the events in his/her country of Residence or Home country. In the events in Bulgaria (mentioned above), there has been EU mobile citizens and thank to the information provided on the website, there was an interest and questions from European citizens regarding the voting process in Bulgaria.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

- 401 Publications and 1.357 followers on Instagram
- 6 741 tweets and 7 523 followers on Tweeter
- 20 302 followers on Facebook

# Was the practice efficient?

Yes, because it provides people with information where and how to vote.

The events, organised in Bulgaria reach many people and thanks to this. This good practice attracts more people. There are useful links, FAQ, information of the events and all this information. All available information is easy to be found from everyone who is interested in this topic. We live in a digital world and everything can be found on the internet. The other useful thing is that other people can join. Modern methods of communication facilitates the dissemination of information.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It is a practice is in all EU Member States (initiative's site is in all EU languages).

Other information















# **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative Website

Training of staff from Local Electoral commissions of the municipalities concerned held by the Regional Electoral Commissions for working with EU Mobile citizens. This was implemented in all the elections that have been held so far and will be realised in April in regard to the forthcoming EU Parliament elections.

https://www.veliko-tarnovo.bg/bg/

https://www.targovishte.bg/ http://www.popovo.bg/bg/

Country City

Bulgaria Veliko Tarnovo
Targovishte
Popovo

# Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Regional electoral commissions of Veliko Tarnovo and Targovishte regions and Popovo Municipality.

# **Description of the practice**

# Which problem does the practice address?

Lack of experience and knowledge among representatives of the local electoral commissions when working with foreign citizens.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

- The staff of the local electoral commissions were trained by experts from Regional electoral commissions from the municipality in which EU citizens live.
- The training included information who can vote and how they can vote in order to be prepared on the day of the elections to give adequate information to these citizens.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- Legislative framework;
- Key points of the electoral process;
- Voting lists and voting polls;
- Exercising the rights of European citizens.

## **Target group**

Administrative staff of the Regional electoral commissions.

# Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?















Special training for the representatives of Electoral commissions of the municipalities concerned by the Regional Electoral Commission for their work with European citizens (especially from UK and NL) in the municipality and the smooth conduct of the elections.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

The activity will be carried out nearly one month before the elections 23-26<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and will take place on territory of the particular Municipality. This is the practice of all the elections that have been held so far.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Veliko Tarnovo Municipality Targovishte Municipality

Popovo Municipality

Electoral commissions of the municipalities concerned

District electoral commissions of those regions

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Although the EU Mobile citizens themselves will not take part in the training, it is entirely aimed at the servicing of mobile citizens in the respective municipalities.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

- Administrative staff is much more confident in the fields of European Elections;
- Provides true and meaningful information to citizens on election Day;
- Receives information that is most up-to-date and trained by experts in their field.

# Was the practice efficient?

This practice is very efficient for smaller municipalities, as the municipalities listed above, because people know well each other. For large municipalities with a bigger population, it would be easier for people to get informed online. On the other hand, practice is much more useful and efficient than others channels (e.g. Internet-based information channels) because it allows for more flexible communication, including Q&A sessions, etc.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

This practice can easily be replicated to other Member States. It depend on how flexible is the administration of the Municipality and what is the population number, because this practise is assessed as suitable only for smaller municipalities.

Other information













D2.1 Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment

## Any other relevant information

# **Identifying information**

## Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

Informal information campaign about the forthcoming elections

https://www.targovishte.bg/

http://www.popovo.bg/bg/

http://sandanskibg.com/

http://www.blgmun.com/

Country City

Bulgaria Targovishte

Popovo Sandanski Blagoevgrad

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Municipality of Targovishte, Municipality of Popovo, Municipality of Sandanski Municipality of Blagoevgrad.

# **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

- The provision of information to EU mobile citizens related to the forthcoming elections;
- Creating greater trust between institutions and European citizens;
- Greater closeness between local authorities and mobile citizens;
- Knowledge among residents at local level;
- Preparation of mobile citizens for the election day.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

- Provision of information who can vote and how to vote;
- Answering questions;
- Introduction of the electoral list and electoral bulletin;
- Raising the interest of the EU mobile citizens;
- Giving information on candidates for local elections and their priority guidelines for development of the area;
- Making an informed decision in exercising the right to vote;
- Informal discussion.















## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- The mayor, mayoral interlocutors and the administration are engaged in informal discussions with mobile EU citizens on the topic related to the elections.
- Experience of the municipalities listed shows significantly greater interest from mobile citizens on participating in more informal discussion.
- Most of the mobile citizens in these areas have an interest in being aware of the situation
  with local government, especially since they own property or business and this seriously
  concerns them. It is also important for them to be able to make informed decisions as to the
  elections, as it affects them what the economic situation in the region is (especially as
  regards their business).

## **Target group**

EU Mobile citizens from Targovishte, Popovo, (The statistical data shows that there are 31 500 EU Mobile citizens in Bulgaria, of which 30 % from the EU mobile citizens are from the UK and around 240 from them live in the region)

EU Mobile citizens from Sandanski and Blagoevgrad

(14 % from the EU mobile citizens in Bulgaria are from Greece and the majority of them live in the area)

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

Informal discussion between EU mobile citizens, Mayor, mayoral interlocutors and the administration of Targovishte, Popovo, Sandanski and Blagoevgrad.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The activity will carry out nearly one Month before the elections 23-26<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and will take place on the territory of the particular Municipality. That practice was realised before all elections performed in the last 8 years.

## Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Targovishte Municipality - The mayor, mayoral interlocutors and the administration Popovo Municipality - The mayor, mayoral interlocutors and the administration Sandancki Municipality - The mayor, mayoral interlocutors and the administration Blagoevgrad Municipality - The mayor, mayoral interlocutors and the administration and EU mobile citizens from the region

# Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Yes. This practice is is targeting only to EU Mobile citizens. Their role is to take part in the discussions, to ask if there is something, which is not clear, regarding the election process. The role of mobile citizens is to attend this informal meeting and to clarify the voting process, asking questions, if necessary, to the employees or the mayor's representatives. They have the right to learn the details of the candidates and to take an informed decision about whom to vote. The Administration remains available especially for them, to clear any uncertainties and answer all their













## questions.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

- According to the local authorities experience and opinion this practice gives most efficient results;
- Around 240 EU Mobile citizens from the UK usually take part in this information campaign
- Around 100 EU Mobile citizens from Greece usually take part in this information campaign (citizens of these two countries are the most in Bulgaria)

## Was the practice efficient?

This practice is considered to be most effective practice, because the meetings are informal and the experience shows that this is much better and relaxing for the citizens themselves. The experience of the municipalities also shows that the formal meetings do not give that good results both in terms of interest and in terms of attendance by mobile citizens.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

This practice can be transferred to other MS. It is easier to communicate in more informal ways, instead of big and formal events, such as conferences. This practice is very simple to be replicated, especially for smaller municipalities, where people know better each other and communicate with foreigners in friendly manner. It depends on how flexible is the municipality and its administration. Our experience shows that this is the easiest way to communicate with mobile citizens and gives best results because of its simplified and informal communication.

## Other information















#### Croatia

No best practices were found.

# Cyprus

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Information on elections

http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/crmd/crmd.nsf/All/3FE9742142AB6892C2257D2C00324C5E?OpenDocu ment

Country City

N/A Cyprus

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Cypriot government.

## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

The Cypriot government provides information on the elections that are held in the country on their website in English and Greek. EU citizens who lack information about the elections and their voting rights can find it here.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

To include all citizens of Cyprus, including EU citizens, in the political life of the country. The website provides information in English in order to inform EU and non-EU citizens about their voting rights.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

To inform citizens in Cyprus about the elections and their voting rights.

# **Target group**

All citizens, including EU citizens living there.

## Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

A website in English and Greek with information on the elections that are held in the country.

# When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is always accessible for everyone with internet access.













D2.1 Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Cypriot government.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information.

## **Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice**

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many visitors the website attracts every year and how many of them are EU citizens.

## Was the practice efficient?

It is efficient to have important information regarding elections (and thus democracy) available in another language than the national language. This way, also internationals living in the country can find this information and feel included in the political system.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It is easy to translate the information on a website in another language. This only needs to be done once and it will be an investment for the future. Therefore, this practice can be replicated in other Member States.

#### Other information















## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

The work of municipalities

http://ucm.org.cy/en/

https://pegeiamunicipality.com/en/home-2/?s=elections

Country City

N/A Cyprus

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Union of Cyprus Municipalities.

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Not all citizens, including EU citizens, living in Cyprus might know where to find all the information regarding the services municipalities offer. This includes also information on the local and European elections.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

The Union of Cyprus Municipalities has a website in English and Greek, providing information on the work of the municipalities. Through this website, one can directly access the website of all the different municipalities in Cyprus. One these websites information can be found on elections and the services the municipality offers.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

To inform citizens about municipal services and elections that take place within the municipality.

# **Target group**

All citizens of Cyprus, including internationals, who can get the information from the website in English.

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

A website in English and Greek, providing information on the work of the municipalities. Through this website, one can directly access the website of all the different municipalities in Cyprus.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is always accessible for people with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Union of Cyprus Municipalities and the different municipalities of Cyprus.















## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

EU mobile citizens are only passive receivers of the information that is provided on the website.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is not known how many visitors the website has in a year.

## Was the practice efficient?

It is efficient to have information regarding municipal services together on one website and in two languages. There is also the opportunity to be redirected to the webpage a specific municipality, which is also available in English and Greek. This way, EU and non-EU citizens living in the country can find this information and feel included in the society.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It is easy to translate the information on a website in another language. This only needs to be done once and it will be an investment for the future. Therefore, this practice can be replicated in other Member States.

Other information













# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

The 'Coalition of Independents'

http://www.pegeiacoalition.org

Country

Cyprus Pegeia

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The 'Coalition of Independents'.

# **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Not all citizens on Cyprus speak Greek or have knowledge on the registration process in the country. The coalition wants to build a better future for Pegeia and involve everyone who has the same vision.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

The 'Coalition of Independents' was created in 2006 to participate in the municipal elections, but they do not see themselves as a political party. Members have different nationalities and want to be involved in the local affairs of Pegeia through the means of democratically elected representation. Their website is in English and Greek and also contains information on the registration process and the elections.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

The goal of the 'coalition' is to build a better future for Pegeia. They also want to inform voters about the registration process and the elections that take place.

#### **Target group**

All citizens in Pegeia, including EU citizens living there.

## Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

A website with information on the registration process and the programme points of the 'coalition'. It is likely they also campaigned for the local elections, but no information was found for this.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is always accessible for people with internet access. The members of the 'coalition' were campaigning before the municipal elections of 2006, 2011 and 2016.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?















The 'Coalition of Independents', consisting of members of different nationalities living in Pegeia who are concerned about the local affairs.

## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Two members of the 'coalition' are mobile EU citizens from the UK and the Netherlands. One of them was a founding member of the 'coalition' and in the vanguard of the fight for voting rights in the local elections for EU citizens in the country.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Linda Leblanc, holding the Canadian and Cypriot nationality, was elected to the council in 2006 and became the first foreign-born citizen to achieve this. In 2011, she was re-elected and she received a 30% increase in the votes. During the elections of 2016, she was once again elected.

# Was the practice efficient?

Information on the campaign is missing, so we do not know whether this was efficient. But in terms of the election results, we can see that the party was successful in getting a seat. As the website is in English and includes practical information on the registration process, we can assume it has helped EU citizens in their political participation in the local elections of Pegeia.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The creation of this political movement is very specific and difficult to replicate. But making the website of a political party available in English or other languages is helpful for EU citizens. If this website also provides information on the registration process and/or the elections in general, EU citizens will be provided with all necessary information which can enhance the political participation.

#### Other information















# Czech Republic

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Žít Brno

https://www.zitbrno.cz/vote

Country

Czech Republic Brno

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The political party Žít Brno.

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Žít Brno is a political party that provides information to foreigners living in the city on how to register and vote in the municipal elections. Since their election in 2014, they also focus on issues that concern internationals.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

The candidates are internationals themselves and want to make everyone feel at home in the city, regardless of their nationality.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

To encourage EU and non-EU citizens to register themselves for the municipal elections and to 'make life in Brno a better experience for everyone'.

# **Target group**

Foreigners living in Brno, including EU citizens.

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The website of the party is in Czech and English and provides information on the programme of the party and the registration process. The party has, since their election, initiated different projects and initiatives. A number of these were implemented (see results).

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible for people with internet access. The activities were/ are carried out in Brno before and after the elections.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?















The political party Žít Brno.

## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Some of the candidates are internationals/ EU mobile citizens themselves. They are involved in the party and were also involved in campaigning for the municipal elections.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Their initiatives led to, according to them, bilingual tram schedules and announcements, bilingual open-air films and bilingual information at the swimming pool. They were also involved in the start of new local and international festivals in the city. They also ensured that there are bilingual pages and form on the website of the Brno. English speaking servants are now working at the registry office, thanks to Žít Brno.

## Was the practice efficient?

When looking at the results the party achieved, we can say the practice was efficient. They were elected into the city council and have achieved changes that makes the life of EU and non-EU citizens living in the city easier.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the website of a political party available in English or other languages and providing information about the registration process is helpful for EU citizens and can be easily replicated. This party also targets specifically EU citizens and proposed changed in the city council which were implemented. This might be harder to achieve depending on the municipality, but the intent is good and involves EU mobile citizens in the society

## Other information















## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Website with information

https://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/voting-in-elections.aspx

Country City

N/A Czech Republic

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic.

# **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

A website of the Ministry of Interior in English with information on the municipal and European elections. Information can be found on the voting dates and the process on how to register for the elections.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform foreign citizens about their voting rights in the Czech Republic.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information on the election dates, the registration process, the municipal elections and the European elections.

# **Target group**

EU and non-EU citizens living in the Czech Republic.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

Providing information in English on the electoral process in the Czech Republic via a website of the government.

# When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is always accessible for people with internet access. The information is aimed at people residing in the Czech Republic.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information that is published on the website.















# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The number of visits to the website are not public, but can be asked from the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic.

## Was the practice efficient?

As the number of visits to the website is unknown, we cannot say for certain whether the practice is efficient. We can assume that EU citizens in the Czech Republic searching for information online will come across this website. Having information on a government page available in English is useful for the non-Czech speakers in the country.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Translating a government website in English can be easily replicated by other Member States. It will make it easier for mobile EU citizens to find information regarding the elections that place in the country and this in turn might have an effect on the political participation.

## Other information













D2.1 Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment

## **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

KohoVolit

https://electioncalculator.org/

Country

Czech Republic and Slovakia N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Kohovolit.

# **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

KohoVolit.eu is a Czechoslovak project aimed at promoting political transparency. They have different projects, one of them being an election calculator for the Czech and Slovak elections in Czech, Slovak and English. The website of KohoVolit is in English, Czech and Slovak. Non-Czech and Slovak speakers might not always know what the ideas are of the different parties and might have trouble comparing the programmes if they are not in English.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

The election calculator provides an opportunity to non-Czech and Slovak speakers to get an idea which party is closest to their beliefs and opinions.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing an opportunity for non-Czech and Slovak speakers to use the election calculator in order for them to get an idea of which party is closest to their beliefs.

#### **Target group**

The election calculator in English is aimed at citizens, including EU citizens, living in the Czech Republic and Slovakia who do not speak the national languages.

## Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The election calculator which is available in Czech, Slovak and English.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

The election calculator is available when there are elections in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. The website is accessible for people with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Kohovolit. They are not affiliated with a political party.













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## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens can use the online election calculator and in this way actively use the tool.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Unknown. But the website can provide statistics on how often the calculator was used.

## Was the practice efficient?

It is difficult to tell as we do not know how many people used the election calculator. But, the fact that there is a possibility for non-Czech and Slovak speakers to use the same tool as Czech and Slovak speakers can help them make up their mind about the elections and feel more involved.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Most Member States have an election calculator in the language of the country. Translating this requires some effort as a lot of questions will be different for every election. But providing the tool in English provides mobile EU citizens with a better opportunity to inform themselves and become political active. It will also show that they are not being overlooked as group.

Other information















## **Denmark**

# **Identifying information**

## Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

Campaign for municipal elections

 $\underline{https://www.thelocal.dk/20171013/eu-citizens-dont-realise-they-have-a-vote-romanian-candidate-in-danish-election}$ 

https://www.facebook.com/lassefrimandjensen/videos/this-is-a-message-for-the-international-community-in-aalborg-a-lot-of-internatio/1241395945995398/

Country

Denmark Aalborg

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Lasse Frimand Jensen and Narcis George Matache.

**Description of the practice** 

## Which problem does the practice address?

Lasse Frimand Jensen ran in 2012 for the first time for the city council of Aalborg. He not only focused on the Danish citizens, but also on the internationals living in the municipality through a bilingual campaign (English and Danish). His campaign focused also on solutions to issues that were faced by the international community living in Aalborg. In addition, the campaign encouraged international students to vote in the elections and to become political active. The international community, EU citizens, are unaware of their rights to vote. Nobody was convincing them to vote and there was no or very less attention on the local agenda for internationals.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

Encouraging international students to vote for the municipal elections and to become political active. Involving the international community in general in the campaign and the elections.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Encourage international students to vote in the municipal elections, focusing in the campaign on solutions to issues being faced by the international community in the municipality.

# Target group

The international community in Aalborg, including EU citizens.

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

A campaign in English and Danish with a focus on solutions to issues that were faced by the international community living in Aalborg.













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#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The campaign was carried out in Aalborg for the 2012 municipal elections.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Volunteers/ members of the political party 'Socialdemokraterne'.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

The political campaign manager of Lasse Frimand was Narcis George Matache from Romania.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

'Hundreds of people' voted for the first time thanks to the campaign. Lasse Frimand Jensen ended up as the chosen number three and it was the first time for a first time candidate to receive so many votes.

## Was the practice efficient?

The campaign was successful as Frimand was elected and ended up as the number three. We do not know to what extent this was influenced by EU citizens who voted, but since he campaigned actively involving EU citizens this might have proven to be successful.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Political parties often do not know how many votes they can get from EU citizens, but depending from country to country and municipality to municipality this might be worth taking into consideration. A bilingual campaign can be easily realised and addressing problems that are being experience by EU citizens might give them the feeling of being heard, which can increase the political participation.

#### Other information















## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

Campaign for the regional council

https://lifeinaalborg.wordpress.com/2017/11/19/narcis-george-matache-international-resident-of-aalborg-running-for-regional-council/

https://www.facebook.com/NarcisGeorge.Matache/

Country

Denmark Region: North Jutland

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Narcis George Matache.

## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

In 2017, 355,881 foreigners in Denmark had the right to vote, with 11.000 in Aalborg. The influence of internationals can be significant if they all use their voting rights. Narcis George Matache, a Romanian, ran in 2017 for the regional council elections in North Jutland. His campaign was focused on the internationals in the region and on issues they faced. He also wanted to raise awareness to the fact that internationals (EU citizens and non-EU citizens) have political rights in Denmark. His aim was to inspire other international to become political active and run for the elections as candidate in 2021.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

Raising awareness to the fact that internationals (EU citizens and non-EU citizens) have political rights in Denmark and inspire other internationals to become political active and run for the elections as candidate in 2021.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Raising awareness about the voting rights of EU and non-EU citizens living in Denmark and encouraging this group to become political active.

#### Target group

The international community, including EU citizens, and the Danes in North Jutland.

## Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

A campaign in Danish and English for the regional council elections.

# When and where were the activities carried out?

The campaign ran in 2017 in North Jutland.













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## Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Volunteers/ members of the political party 'Socialdemokraterne'.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Matache is a mobile EU citizen. He ran for the regional council and was this actively involved in the campaign.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Matache is currently first deputy in the regional council. His campaign appeared in the media and drew therefore some attention.

## Was the practice efficient?

It is not known how many people were inspired by the campaign and voted in this elections, nor is known if some of them became politically active.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Political parties often do not know how many votes they can get from EU citizens, but depending from country to country and municipality to municipality this might be worth taking into consideration. A bilingual campaign can be easily realised and addressing problems that are being experience by EU citizens might give them the feeling of being heard, which can increase the political participation.

## Other information















# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Website of the government

https://elections.oim.dk/local-elections/voting-on-election-day/

Country

Denmark N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Ministry for Economic Affairs and the Interior.

**Description of the practice** 

Which problem does the practice address?

The website of the ministry for Economic Affairs and the Interior provides information on the elections, the electoral register and voting in English and Danish.

What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens living in Denmark about the elections and their voting rights.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information about the elections that take place in Denmark and the voting rights of the citizens.

Target group

All citizens living in Denmark, including EU citizens.

Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?

Providing information via a government website in English.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is aimed at citizens living in Denmark and is accessible for all people with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Ministry for Economic Affairs and the Interior.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens can only passively acquire the information.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its













D2.1 Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment

#### success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many visitors the website has per year.

# Was the practice efficient?

As we do not have information on the number of visitors, it is hard to tell whether the practice is efficient. But non-Danish speakers have a reliable source of information on the elections, which is important.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Translating a government website in English can be easily replicated by other Member States. It will make it easier for mobile EU citizens to find information regarding the elections that place in the country and this in turn might have an effect on the political participation.

Other information

Any other relevant information

## **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Copenhagen

https://international.kk.dk/

https://ihcph.kk.dk/

Country

Denmark Copenhagen

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Municipality of Copenhagen and International House Copenhagen.

**Description of the practice** 

Which problem does the practice address?

New citizens, including EU citizens, in Copenhagen looking for information about living in the city.

What is the key goal of the practice?















To inform citizens about all aspects of living in Copenhagen, including finding work, accommodation, studying and learning Danish.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing newcomers in Copenhagen about relevant information concerning living in/ relocating to the city, including information on registration, the weather, culture, health care, working and studying. Events are organised regularly by the International House Copenhagen on, for example, Danish workplace culture and leisure guidance and networking.

# **Target group**

Newcomers in Copenhagen, including EU citizens.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

A website with information about living in Copenhagen. On the website upcoming events are published for newcomers.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible for people with internet access and always available. The event are organised on a regular basis in Copenhagen.

## Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The website is an initiative of the municipality of Copenhagen. The International House Copenhagen is a public-private partnership in which the municipality is also present.

## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information published on the website, but they can participate in the events that are being organised on a regular basis. The events are free of charge.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visit the website and participate in the events, but as the events are organised on a regular basis, this can be seen as an indication that they are successful.

## Was the practice efficient?

The number of visitors and participants is unknown, which makes it difficult to assess the efficiency of the practice. However, as the events are organised on a structural basis it shows that newcomers are interested in this. In addition, the information on the website is in English, which is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for details regarding living in Copenhagen.

## **Transferability assessment**













D2.1 Comparative analysis report on existing best practices/political inclusion policies and transferability assessment

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Creating a special website for newcomers in a city in English might not be feasible for all municipalities in the EU. However, the idea is good and can certainly be replicated by the bigger cities that receive a considerable number of mobile EU citizens. Another option is for governments to take up this role and create a nationwide website for newcomers in their country. Organising events for newcomers on practical topics like taxes and the workplace culture will be an added value for mobile EU citizens and can be replicated by other municipalities.

Other information















#### Estonia

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Website Estonian National Electoral Committee

https://www.valimised.ee/en

Country

Estonia N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Estonian National Electoral Committee and the State Electoral Office.

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

The Estonian National Electoral Committee and the State Electoral Office has a website in English, Estonian and Russian dedicated to all elections that take place in the country. People can find, among other, the dates, the candidates, the polling stations and the voting results.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens of Estonia about all the elections that take place in the country, including those who not speak Estonian (sufficiently).

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information to citizens in Estonia in Estonian, English and Russian about the elections that take place in the country.

# **Target group**

All citizens in Estonia, including EU citizens residing in the country.

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

A website providing information in three languages about the elections in Estonia.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to people with internet access and the information is aimed at citizens in Estonia.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Estonian National Electoral Committee and the State Electoral Office.















## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens can only passively acquire the information.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The number of visitors of the website is unknown, but can probably be given when asked.

## Was the practice efficient?

As we do not have information on the number of visitors, it is hard to tell whether the practice is efficient. But non-Estonian speakers have a reliable source of information on the elections, which is important.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Translating the website of the national electoral committee in English and other languages can be easily replicated by other Member States. It will make it easier for mobile EU citizens to find information regarding the elections that place in the country and this in turn might have an effect on the political participation. Translating the information is a onetime investment and can be used until it needs to be updated.

Other information















## **Finland**

# **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

The #useyourvote local election debate

https://www.facebook.com/events/164172227434327/

https://blogs.helsinki.fi/welcometouh/2017/03/17/you-could-have-a-right-to-vote-use-it/

https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/useyourvote debate parties pitch for foreign votes/9512244

Country

Finland N/A

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Yle news, a Finnish broadcasting company.

## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

On 9 April 2017 were the municipal elections in Finland. Not all EU and non-EU citizens speak Finnish and therefore miss the political messages of the different political parties. Therefore, on 22 March an election debate in English was organised by Yle news, a Finnish broadcasting company. The debate was broadcasted live on Facebook and on Yle Areena. The event lasted from 14:00 until 15:15.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform non-Finnish speakers about the local elections, in order to help them make a balanced choice. And in this way also encourage them to participate in the elections.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Give a platform the different political parties in English to address EU and non-EU voters, inform these voters about the ideas and plans of these parties.

## **Target group**

Foreigners eligible to vote in the municipal elections in Finland and who do not speak and/ or understand the national language. EU citizens are included in this group.

#### Implementation of the practice

# What were the main activities carried out?

An election debate in English that was broadcasted on Facebook and Yle Areena.

## When and where were the activities carried out?















The debate took place on 22 March in Helsinki and lasted from 14:00 until 15:00. The debate was broadcasted on Facebook and on Yle Areena.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Yle news, a Finnish broadcasting company.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

EU citizens could watch the debate live, but were only passive receivers.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

102 people indicated on Facebook they went to the event (i.e. were planning to watch it) and 292 said they were interested.

## Was the practice efficient?

The debate reached at least 100 people, but probably more as not everyone would have indicated on Facebook they would watch it. It focused specifically on the international community and could be watched online, which lowers the barrier of having to go somewhere. It was also one of the few events for this target group in Finland. Therefore, we can conclude it was efficient.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It might be difficult to replicate this practice as it depends on the willingness of the political parties to participate and of a broadcasting company to broadcast the debate. But the idea of bringing together political parties and let them debate for the EU voters can certainly be replicated. This will bring politics closer to the target group and might increase the political participation.

#### Other information















## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Use Your (Foreign) Voice! Helsinki Municipal Elections

https://www.facebook.com/events/1137229686386810/

Country

Finland Helsinki

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Helsingfors Arbis (Arbis in Helsinki is an adult education centre), in cooperation with Svenska.FI rf (an association of those people who choose Swedish as the integration language in Finland).

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

A meeting with the local municipal candidates of Helsinki. All candidates spoke Finnish, Swedish and English. Translators for other languages were available. As not all eligible voters speak English, the meeting emphatically also focused on this group to inform them about the political ideas of the different political parties that were participating in the elections. The event started with a short presentation on how the Helsinki municipality works, after which each candidate presented him/herself. Then, the public could speak with all the candidates freely and ask questions.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

To offer an opportunity to all voters to meet their municipal candidates and receive more information regarding their electoral programme and thus to encourage people to use their voting right.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing voters about the municipal elections in Helsinki, introducing the different candidates and their ideas, encouraging people through this meeting to participate in the elections.

#### **Target group**

All voters, but the organisation was aware that the majority of the attendees would not have or have limited language skills in Finnish. As there were also translators present, the target group included voters without the Finnish nationality.

## Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

A meeting with the local municipal candidates. The event started with a short presentation on how the Helsinki municipality works, after which each candidate presented him/herself. Then, the public could speak with all the candidates freely and ask questions.

When and where were the activities carried out?















The meeting was held on 23 March 2017 from 17:00 until 20:00 in Helsinki.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Helsingfors Arbis (Arbis in Helsinki is an adult education centre), in cooperation with Svenska.FI rf (an association of those people who choose Swedish as the integration language in Finland).

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens could come to the meeting and ask questions to the municipal candidates. They could actively participate in gathering more information.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

On Facebook, 65 people said they went and met the municipal candidates. 210 people had expressed their interest. It is probably that more than 65 attended as not everyone would have registered via Facebook.

#### Was the practice efficient?

At least 65 people went to the event and 210 were interested, so the meeting and the announcement of this meeting reached a relatively large group. With more than three languages available to inform the voters about the elections and the political programmes a substantially large group could be reached.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The availability of the languages and translators made it a valuable meeting as no voters were excluded. It will depend on the willingness of municipalities and countries whether they would like to make such an investment. The advantage is that all people who are interested to vote will be reached and can participate even though they do not speak the native language. The practice of organising a debate for EU citizens in English can also be replicated and is a good for increasing the political involvement of this group.

#### Other information















# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Election website

https://vaalit.fi

Country

Finland N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Election Unit of the Ministry of Justice.

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

The election website of the Finnish ministry of Justice contains information about all the elections that place in the country, as well as information regarding the political parties, voting and dates.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform all citizens in Finland about their voting rights, the dates and polling stations.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing citizens about their voting rights, the elections and all other necessary information like dates and polling stations.

#### Target group

For all people who would like to read information on the elections that take place in Finland, including EU citizens.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The website with all the information regarding the elections is available in English, Finnish and Swedish. However, for the different elections are separate information documents available in more language, from Albanian to Vietnamese. For the elections of the European Parliament are 9 languages available, but for the municipal, parliamentary and presidential elections the information documents are available in 20 languages or more. There are also two videos available about the voting process with English subtitles.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible for everyone with internet access. The information is aimed at citizens in Finland.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?















The Election Unit of the Ministry of Justice.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are on the receiving end. They can only passively read the information.

## **Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice**

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Unknown, but visitor statistics might be available with the ministry of Justice.

# Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to estimate. But the information for the elections is available in multiple languages and this is a huge plus.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in multiple languages is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for government to do this and they will reach a big part of the mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote.

Other information















#### France

## **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Renaissance

https://eu-renaissance.org/en

Country

France N/A

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Emmanuel Macron, through his campaign duo Garance Pineau (special advisor Europe of the La République En Marche (LREM)) and Stephane Séjourné (campaign leader of LREM for the European elections).

## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

The European elections will be held in May 2019 and throughout the EU, there are Eurosceptic parties and politicians who are doubting the European project.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

The website states that "Renaissance is a project aimed at transforming Europe. Renaissance is a vision of the Europe we want to build, an appeal for mobilisation and a citizens' action platform".

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Involving European citizens from all over the European Union to sign the initiative, let their voice be heard and to 'rebuild Europe'.

#### **Target group**

All European citizens, mainly the ones who believe in Europe.

# Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

The website is online and asks people to sign the initiative. After the European elections, a conference will be held on 'the rebuilding of Europe'.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to everyone with internet access and is available 24 languages.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?













Emmanuel Macron, through his campaign duo Garance Pineau (special advisor Europe of the La République En Marche (LREM)) and Stephane Séjourné (campaign leader of LREM for the European elections).

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

European citizens are asked to sign the initiative and spread the message.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people signed the initiative as people can still participate.

## Was the practice efficient?

The website and the initiative were published in 24 languages, so it has the potential of reaching all EU citizens. As the results are still unknown, it is difficult to assess whether the practice was efficient.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It is a good way to involve EU citizens as everybody can contribute by given his or her opinion. This could be replicated on a smaller scale by Member States themselves and organising debates throughout the country about the EU and its future.

**Other information** 













# Name of the practice/policy/initiative Website INCLUDE https://www.paris.fr/projetinclude Country City

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Paris City Hall, in cooperation with the European Civic Forum and the Young Europeans- France.

**Paris** 

## **Description of the practice**

France

## Which problem does the practice address?

Parisians are not always aware of the rights they have as EU citizens and EU citizens are politically not very active.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

Making Parisians aware of their rights as EU citizens and encourage EU citizens to register for the municipal and European elections.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- -Promoting European citizenship in Paris,
- -Search for best practices and provide other authorities in the EU with a study of the programme,
- -Include EU citizens in the city life of Paris.

## **Target group**

EU citizens living in Paris.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

In 2018, the Paris City Hall launched a project "INCLUDE", in cooperation with the European Civic Forum and the Young Europeans- France, which aims at promoting the rights of EU citizens and enhancing inclusion of non-national EU citizens in the "Parisian civic life". Among other initiatives, in December, a European Consultative Council was created. It is composed of 61 mobile EU citizens and works in close cooperation with elected officials of the City of Paris, to whom it proposes opinions and recommendations.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The activities were carried out in Paris in 2018.

Activities:















- -24 workshops for citizens,
- -disseminating a survey to identify the obstacles to European citizenship,
- -the creation of an information bus to inform people about their voting rights and European citizenship,
- -the creation of an advisory committee.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Paris City Hall, in cooperation with the European Civic Forum and the Young Europeans- France.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

European citizens were approached via workshops and the information bus.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many EU citizens were reached and what the results were of the project in terms of voter registration.

#### Was the practice efficient?

It is unknown in which languages the activities were carried out. The website is in French and not all mobile EU citizens might speak this language fluently. Without this information it is difficult to assess the efficiency of the project.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It is a good way to involve EU citizens by approaching them with an information bus and to organise workshops.

## Other information















## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Citovens Actif

http://www.citoyensactifs.eu/citoyensactifs.eu 2014 archives/projet archives.html

Country

France Paris region

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Citoyens Actif in cooperation with Communauté Franco-Polonaise (CFP), Association des Polonais des Grandes Ecoles Françaises (APGEF) et Association des Etudiants Polonais (AEP), Coordination des Collectivités Portugaises de France (CCPF), Cap Magellan, ACTIVA, CIVICA, Fédération des Associations et Centre d'Emigrés Espagnols (FACEEF), Italia in rete, Inca Francia, Focus In, ACLI France.

## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

Mobile EU citizens living in the Paris region are not always aware of their voting rights and might therefore not register for the municipal and European elections.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

Making EU citizens aware of their voting rights and encourage them to register for the municipal and European elections of 2014.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing mobile EU citizens about their voting rights for the municipal and European elections, informing them about the obligation to register for the elections, encouraging them to use their voting right.

## **Target group**

EU citizens living in the Paris region.

## Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

In the project Spanish, Italian, Polish and Portuguese partners from France are involved with the aim of encouraging EU citizens living in France to register for the municipal and European elections in 2014. Therefore, they launched an awareness campaign.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

The activities were carried out in the Paris region in 2014.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?













best



Citoyens Actif in cooperation with Communauté Franco-Polonaise (CFP), Association des Polonais des Grandes Ecoles Françaises (APGEF) et Association des Etudiants Polonais (AEP), Coordination des Collectivités Portugaises de France (CCPF), Cap Magellan, ACTIVA, CIVICA, Fédération des Associations et Centre d'Emigrés Espagnols (FACEEF), Italia in rete, Inca Francia, Focus In, ACLI France.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

European citizens were approached via the awareness campaign.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown whether the voter registration among mobile EU citizens increased due to the awareness campaign.

## Was the practice efficient?

It is unknown whether the number of registrations for the elections increased and therefore the efficiency is difficult to assess. The website of the project, however, is in French and not all mobile EU citizens might speak this language fluently.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It is a good way to make EU citizens aware of their voting rights in their host country. This can be replicated in other EU Member States by either NGOs or authorities.

Other information















# Germany

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Hanisauland

https://www.hanisauland.de/en/en index.html

Country

Germany N/A

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Federal Agency for Civic Education (BPB). The website was made by the Federal Centre for Political Education in Bonn.

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Hanisauland is a website in English and German for children that has a political theme. The aim is to get children between 8 and 14 years interested in politics. On the websites are games to play and a comic to read, with every month a new chapter published (the comics are also available in printed form). There is also a lexicon and a calendar on which political and historical events are being named. Children can also give a review in the book and film section, although this part is only available in German. A cd and educational posters explaining politics are also available.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

The aim is to get children between 8 and 14 years interested in politics and to enable them to take an active and critical approach to political themes.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

To interest children for politics and to enable them to take an active and critical approach to political themes.

#### **Target group**

Children between 8 and 14 years in Germany, but it can also be used outside the country as the website is also available in English.

#### Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

On the websites are games to play and a comic to read, with every month a new chapter published (the comics are also available in printed form). There is also a lexicon and a calendar on which political and historical events are being named. Children can also give a review in the book and film section, although this part is only available in German. A cd and educational posters explaining















politics are also available.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to everyone with internet access. The focus lie son children living in Germany.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Federal Agency for Civic Education (BPB). The website was made by the Federal Centre for Political Education in Bonn.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Children of mobile EU citizens might be using this website, as also schools are involved.

**Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice** 

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Unknown how many children are using the website, but they are responding in the comment section. Schools are also involved. It is too soon to tell the effect on the long-term. Will the political participation of these children be higher and what about the children of mobile EU citizens?

## Was the practice efficient?

When looking at the long-term this is not yet known. But the playful way is an attractive way to interest children for politics and this might influence their political behaviour in a later stage. This is the same for children of mobile EU citizens.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It is a good way to involve children and by offering the website also in English, children of mobile EU citizens can also be reached. The website could also be used by other Member States or translated into other languages. The involvement of mobile EU citizens on a later age will also depend on what they learned as a child.

Other information















## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Wir wählen

http://wir-wählen.org/#Liste

https://www.thelocal.de/20170918/foreigners-in-berlin-cast-symbolic-federal-election-vote-in-new-

<u>initiative</u>

Country

Germany N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Wir wählen.

## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

For the 2017 parliamentary elections in Germany, a campaign was launched to draw attention to the fact that non-EU citizens cannot vote in German elections. Although the campaign does not target explicitly EU citizens, in general they are not allowed to vote for the city-state parliaments (Landtagswahl) and for the German parliament (Bundestag). Part of the campaign was setting up symbolic polling stations where EU citizens and non-EU citizens people could cast their vote. They also organised other events, like a panel discussion and an election party. The website of the campaign is available in ten languages.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

To draw attention to the fact that 4.5 million citizens in Germany cannot vote in one of the elections. EU citizens can participate in the municipal and EP elections, but not on the other ones.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Raising awareness across Germany for the lack of voting rights for a part of the citizens living in the country, involving the target group in symbolic elections to give them a voice.

## **Target group**

Citizens living in Germany who do not have the German nationality, including EU citizens.

## Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

Part of the campaign was setting up symbolic polling stations where EU citizens and non-EU citizens people could cast their vote. They also organised other events, like a panel discussion and an election party. The website of the campaign is available in ten languages.

When and where were the activities carried out?













The activities were carried out through the whole of Germany in 2017.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Volunteers of Wir wählen helped organising the symbolic elections and other activities.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens were asked whether they wanted to vote in the symbolic elections.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people participated in the symbolic elections.

Was the practice efficient?

The awareness about the lack of voting rights for a part of the citizens in Germany was raised. But no change was made in the voting right itself.

**Transferability assessment** 

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It is a playful way to draw attention to the fact that not every citizen in the Member States has the same voting rights as the nationals. To raise awareness and possibly support among the citizens in a Member State, this kind of action might be a good start.

Other information















**Identifying information** 

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Website of the Federal Returning Officer

https://www.bundeswahlleiter.de/en/bundeswahlleiter.html

Country City

N/A Germany

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Federal Returning Officer.

**Description of the practice** 

Which problem does the practice address?

The website of the Federal Returning Officer provides information in English and German on the different elections that take place in Germany to inform non-German speakers about this topic.

What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens who do not speak German about the elections, their right to vote and other information, like the registration process.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing non-German speakers about the elections and in this way taking an obstacle away for the political participation of EU citizens.

**Target group** 

Citizens in Germany who do not speak German.

Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?

The website of the Federal Returning Officer provides information in English and German on the different elections that take place in Germany.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all people with internet access. The target group is citizens living in Germany.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Federal Returning Officer, a government body.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information that can be found on the website.















# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many visitors the website has on a yearly basis.

#### Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for the elections is available in English and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in English is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for government to do this and they will easier reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote.

Other information













## Greece

## **Identifying information**

## Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

<u>%CE%B4%CF%81%CE%AC%CF%83%CE%B5%CE%B9%CF%82/%CF%80%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%83%CE%</u>

BA%CE%BB%CE%B7%CF%83%CE%B7-%CF%83%CE%B5-

%CF%83%CF%85%CE%BD%CE%B1%CE%BD%CF%84%CE%B7%CF%83%CE%B7-

%CE%B1%CF%85%CF%84%CE%B7-%CF%84%CE%B7-%CF%86%CE%BF%CF%81%CE%B1-

%CF%88%CE%B7%CF%86%CE%B9%CE%B6%CF%89-%CE%B3%CE%B9%CE%B1-%CF%84%CE%B1-

%CE%B4%CE%B9%CE%BA%CE%B1%CE%B9%CF%89%CE%BC%CE%B1%CF%84%CE%B1-

%CE%BC%CE%BF%CF%85

Country

Greece Athens

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

European Parliament Office in Greece,

**Europe Direct City of Athens** 

## **Description of the practice**

# Which problem does the practice address?

The event/ discussion was organised in the framework of the Greek campaign: "This Time I'm voting". The European Parliament Office in Greece held this event on 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2019, so as to inform the citizens of their rights.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

The goal of this event was to provide useful information to all citizens in Greece regarding their rights, on the occasion of the upcoming European elections.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

To involve the citizens on a fruitful dialogue.

## **Target group**

All citizens of Athens.

## Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?















Information by experts on the field were provided.

List of speakers:

Maria Daniela Marouda, Assistant Professor of International Law at the Department of International and European Studies, Panteion University

Philippos Paganis, Member of the scientific Team of Orlando LGBT+ mental health beyond the stigma, Responsible for Transcending Youth, Color Youth

Nikos Andreopoulos, Secretary General of the European Network of Active Living for Mental Health Theona Koufonikolakou, Assistant Ombudsman for Children.

The debate was coordinated by Harris Kountouros, Public Relations Officer of the European Parliament's Office in Greece.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The event was held on 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 at Serafio of City of Athens is a contemporary Sports, Culture & Innovation Center.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Volunteers of the campaign were involved.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

The majority was Greek citizens.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

There were many people attending the event and posed many questions.

## Was the practice efficient?

The people that attended the event were highly interested in the topic and they had many questions regarding their rights. However, the efficiency will be shown at the percentage of people that will participate at the EU elections.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

This event could be relatively easy replicated in other member states as well, given the fact that it raises the awareness of the citizens regarding their rights. So a similar information campaign could be organised, if it had not yet in another member state, especially in those countries, where many mobile EU citizens reside.

#### Other information













best

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative Website

https://www.project-approach.eu/#home-deadlines

Country City

Greece **Athens** 

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Lead partner:

ALDA – the European Association for Local Democracy – France

Project partners:

- Municipality of Paris France
- Municipality of Milan Italy
- Municipality of Nea Smyrni Greece
- Municipality of Etterbeek Belgium
- Municipality of Vejle Denmark
- Municipality of Lisbon Portugal

## Associate partners:

- Municipality of Warsaw Poland
- Municipality of Amsterdam Netherlands

#### **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice addresses?

Despite the remarkable increase in intra-EU mobility resulting from the subsequent signing of the Schengen Agreement, many citizens travelling across the union do not know exactly the rights they enjoy. Hence, although many more students are applying for the Erasmus+ program and many more are looking for better working opportunities and retirement schemes across the Union, problems are still present when citizens move to live to other countries. As showed by the 2016 Comparative study of obstacles to the rights of free movement and residence for EU citizens and their families, "EU citizens face several obstacles when deciding to move with their families to another EU country, amongst these the accessing employment, double taxation of salaries and pensions, poor administrative services, social inclusion difficulties which lead to lack of interest towards local daily life, schooling insertion, additional requirements to register to vote/stand as a candidate in European and municipal elections in another Member State".

# What is the key goal of the practice?

The project will focus its attention on three important aspects of EU Mobile Citizens (EUMCs) inclusion:

- A. Access to voting system
- B. Kids schooling enrolment
- C. EUMCs' active participation in civic life.















The project encompasses relevant horizontal priorities:

- 1. The overall improvement of internal and external communication concerning EU mobility.
- 2. Training of municipal staff: English training and awareness raising concerning EU mobile citizens' rights. A great majority of EU citizens that decide to move abroad speaks English, at least at B1 level, it is therefore important that civil servants based in the selected municipalities can use this language to share information concerning bureaucratic aspects and services for EUMCs.
- 3. Training of EU mobile citizens concerning their rights when moving to another EU country and about procedures to facilitate their access to local services (especially vote, schooling, decision making).

It is important to notice that the important result of the project won't be the IT tools themselves and its use by EUMCs during the project, but the awareness raising processes that will be generated through the project activities, especially through the focus groups, the awareness raising training section, etc. Indeed, the fact that these tools will be co-developed with civil servants' and EUMCs' active contribution will enhance the awareness raising process towards EU mobile citizens' free movement rights.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- A. facilitate the circulation of information and guidelines to promote the effective exercise of free movement rights of EUMCs living elsewhere in Europe and future mobile EU citizens
- B. study the challenges faced by local authorities when welcoming EUMCs
- C. propose efficient solutions regarding these challenges

These objectives will be realized with the help of various tools. Hence, the project will:

- a. Form a strong consortium mixing EU small-medium-large size municipalities;
- b. Establish new direct communication channels between EUMCs and Municipalities, by involving already existing expats' networks;
- c. Assess the efficiency of provided services and existing challenges faced by each local authority when welcoming EUMCs;
- d. Exchange best practices;
- e. Develop a digital ecosystem (APP, online platform, community management, social media engagement) based on the relevant information collected during the first phase, which gathers step-by-step guidelines to facilitate EU mobile citizens' involvement in community decision making;
- f. Conduct a final assessment of the impact and effectiveness of the digital ecosystem developed;
- g. Train local authorities and EUMC on the use and promotion of the APP;
- h. Disseminate the project results (APP, platform, best practices, needs) at European level Promote EU active citizenship.

# **Target group**

EU mobile citizens in their welcoming cities.

Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?















- Management and administrative arrangements; setting a Communication and Dissemination Plan; implementing a kick-off meeting in Paris
- Focus groups study: carried out simultaneously in each municipality involved with local authorities' selected staff and with EUMCs, with the aim of studying system deficiencies, challenges and needs concerning EU citizens' mobility.
- APP and platform preparation.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

On 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th of</sup> July 2018, the kick-off meeting of the project APProach was held in Paris.

Consultations involved different municipalities – Etterbeek (Belgium), Lisbon (Portugal), Milan (Italy), Nea Smyrni (Greece), Paris (France) and Vejle (Denmark), as well as Amsterdam (Netherlands) and Warsaw (Poland) as associate partners.

The APProach project launched the first steps of its digital ecosystem to facilitate communication between local authorities and EU mobile citizens on15/02/2019.

## Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

All the partners of the program were involved, such as Etterbeek (Belgium), Milan (Italy), Nea Smyrni (Greece), Paris (France), Vejle (Denmark), Lisbon (Portugal), Amsterdam (Netherlands) & Warsaw (Poland).

#### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

The program targets the EU citizens. APProach has gathered all the deadlines for EU mobile citizens to register to be able to vote in the European Parliament elections from 23 to 26 May 2019.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

There is no data yet on the outcomes of the program, since it is in the implementation phase.

## Was the practice efficient?

There is no data yet on the outcomes of the program, since it is in the implementation phase.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

This European program involves many members.

#### Other information













best



# **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

http://www.ypes.gr/en/Elections/ElectionsEuropeanParliament/ElectionsforEuropeanParliament/po

City Country

Greece **Athens** 

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Ministry of Interior of the Hellenic Republic.

# **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice addresses?

The Ministry's website provides information (in English) about the political rights to the EU citizens that reside in Greece.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

The key goal is to ensure the equal and active participation of citizens of other EU Member States in the decision making process, both in local societies and in the democratic life of the European Union.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

The translation in English of the page about elections and more specifically of the political rights of EU mobile citizens and the elections of the European Parliament, is a step towards the inclusion of the EU citizens, since information is provided in English (that can easily understood by many ethnicities).

## **Target group**

EU citizens who reside in Greece.

## Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

Translation of the Ministry's website and provision of phones and e-mail addresses of the Ministry's personnel, who can assist the EU citizens.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

The page has no date.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Ministry of Interior, Hellenic Republic.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?













No, they are only passive receivers of the information.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

There is no data regarding this question.

Was the practice efficient?

There is no data regarding this question.

**Transferability assessment** 

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Yes.

**Other information** 















# Hungary

## **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

The National Election Office of Hungary

http://www.valasztas.hu/web/national-election-office/voting-of-hungarian-citizens-having-no-residence-in-hungary-out-of-country-citizens-

Country

Hungary N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The National Election Office of Hungary.

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

The National Election Office of Hungary has a website in English, Hungarian, German and French with information about the different elections and referendums that take and took place in the country. There is a section on the registration process, election vocabulary and frequently asked questions. Citizens who do not speak Hungary can through this website find all the information they need when it comes to elections and voting.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

To provide the citizens in Hungary with information about the elections that place so that they can register themselves and can participate in the elections.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing citizens about the elections that take place in Hungary.

#### Target group

For all citizens living in Hungary, including foreigners, who want to have more information about the elections in the country.

## Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

The National Election Office of Hungary has a website in English, Hungarian, German and French with information about the different elections and referendums that take and took place in the country. There is a section on the registration process, election vocabulary and frequently asked questions.

When and where were the activities carried out?













best

existing

transferability

The website is accessible for all people with internet access. The first referendum named on the website is the one of 1997, the first election is the one of 1998.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The National Election Office of Hungary.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visit the website every year.

## Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for the elections is available in four languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in four languages is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for government to do this and they will easier reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote. Especially with more languages available a bigger group of mobile EU citizens can be reached.

Other information















## Ireland

## **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Register, vote, run!

https://www.immigrantcouncil.ie/news/go-vote

Country

Ireland N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Immigration Council of Ireland.

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

The Immigration Council of Ireland says that voter registration of non-Irish citizens for the municipal elections are below average. Also, the number of migrant councillors is low. The Immigration Council of Ireland wants to restore this imbalance.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

To encourage non-Irish citizens to register for the elections of 2019 and to vote.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing non-Irish citizens about the registration process and their voting rights. The objective is to encourage people to register after watching the video.

## **Target group**

Non-Irish citizens, including EU citizens.

#### Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

The Immigration Council of Ireland launched ten videos in different languages to encourage non-Irish citizens to vote in the upcoming municipal elections of 24 May 2019. They want to promote the message 'register, vote, run'. Ten videos in ten different languages (e.g. Polish, Romanian and Spanish) of around one minute were created to tell migrants about their voting rights and providing step-by-step information on how to use this right. The form to be included on the Electoral Register can also be found on the website. The videos can be shared on social media, which the Immigration Council of Ireland also asks visitors on the website to do.

When and where were the activities carried out?













best



The videos are still being shared as the elections still need to be held. Spreading the videos will (probably) happen in the whole of Ireland.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Immigration Council of Ireland. This is a human rights organisation and law centre. They support and advocate for the rights of immigrants and their families and act as a catalyst for public debate, legal and policy change.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Several mobile EU citizens were asked to participate in one of the videos and providing the information in their native language.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is too soon to tell as the elections are in May 2019.

Was the practice efficient?

As the local elections still need to be held it is difficult to say at this point whether the practice was efficient in terms of range, time and money.

**Transferability assessment** 

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The practice could be replicated by other Member States as the videos can be sued multiple times as the information on the registration process and the elections do not change that often. It is also easy to spread these videos online and sharing them, so that they can reach a big audience. In addition, providing information this way is more interactive than only presenting it in the written form and might attract the attention of EU citizens who are more visually oriented.

Other information













## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Political Internship Scheme

https://www.immigrantcouncil.ie/news/political-internship-scheme-great-opportunity-migrants-local-political-participation

Country

Ireland Wicklow, Dundalk, Cork, Longford and Swords

#### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Immigration Council of Ireland.

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

The Immigration Council of Ireland says that voter registration of non-Irish citizens for the municipal elections are below average. Also, the number of migrant councillors is low. The Immigration Council of Ireland wants to restore this imbalance.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

Promoting migrant participation in local politics.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Encourage migrants to run for elective positions in the upcoming local elections of May 2019.

## **Target group**

Members of the migrant community and councillors.

#### Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

An internship in the local municipalities for members of the migrant community. They were being paired with a local councillor and worked on local issues and also attended Council and community meetings. The internship project was launched in March 2018 with the aim of promoting migrant participation in local politics. The project also wanted to encourage migrants to run for elective positions in the upcoming local elections of May 2019. The interns had to write a journal on a weekly basis in which they told about their experiences. They also participated in review exercises. In addition, they participated in other activities like attending council meetings and canvasing.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The internship project was launched in March 2018 and took place in the municipalities of Wicklow, Dundalk, Cork, Longford and Swords.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

















The Immigration Council of Ireland. This is a human rights organisation and law centre. They support and advocate for the rights of immigrants and their families and act as a catalyst for public debate, legal and policy change.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

It is not known whether mobile EU citizens took part in the programme.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Five videos were created about the project and can be watched on YouTube. Short testimonies of the interns and councillors were published on the website of the Immigration Council of Ireland, all of whom stated that it had been a very positive experience.

## Was the practice efficient?

Organising this requires a lot of time and the scale of the project is rather limited. Although the longterm effects are not (yet) known, it is questionable whether this project is really as efficient as it could be.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The practice can be replicated in other Member States as it can actively involve young mobile EU citizens. It can be spread throughout a whole country although the number of young EU citizens reached might be limited.

# Other information













# Identifying information

Co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC)

Programme of the European Union

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

Promoting Political Engagement of Migrants 2018

http://www.integration.ie/en/ISEC/Pages/Event Migrants in Politics 2018

Country

Ireland Dublin

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The event was supported with funding from the Office for the Promotion of Migrant Integration and organised in partnership with several migrant organisations (the Immigrant Council of Ireland, Akidwa, Cairde, the International Organisation for Migration, Forum Polonia, New Communities Partnership, Places of Sanctuary Ireland and Wezesha).

## Description of the practice

## Which problem does the practice address?

The Office for the Promotion of Migrant Integration and several migrant organisations organised on 24 March 2018 the event 'Promoting Political Engagement of Migrants 2018' as the political engagement of migrants is considered too low.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

The aim was to inspire migrants to become more involved in politics, local as well national.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing the participants that everyone has the right to vote in the local elections and that this vote is important and that everyone has the right to run in the local elections.

Inspiring the participants to become involved in politics and to spread this message to their respective communities.

## **Target group**

The event was organised for migrant community leaders from all of Ireland.

#### Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

Migrant community leaders met with representatives of political parties and groupings. The event focused on two messages:

- "Everyone has the right to vote in local elections and it's important to use this vote,"
- "Everyone also has the right to run in local elections and migrants are encouraged to either take this step themselves or encourage/support community members to do so."

When and where were the activities carried out?













best



The event took place on 24 March 2018 in Dublin.

## Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The event was supported with funding from the Office for the Promotion of Migrant Integration and organised in partnership with several migrant organisations (the Immigrant Council of Ireland, Akidwa, Cairde, the International Organisation for Migration, Forum Polonia, New Communities Partnership, Places of Sanctuary Ireland and Wezesha).

## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

It is unknown whether mobile EU citizens were among the invited migrant community leaders.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many persons attended, but this can be checked with the Office for the Promotion of Migrant Integration.

## Was the practice efficient?

You invite a small group of community leaders who will spread the message further in the community. This is an effective way of reaching a larger group. In terms of time and investment, this approach is efficient.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

This practice is a good way to spread the message of political participation to the communities of mobile EU citizens by organising an event for the community leaders. Only a small groups needs to be invited and they will spread the message further in their network.

#### Other information













assessment



## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

**Engaging Migrants In Politics** 

http://www.integration.ie/en/ISEC/Pages/Engaging Migrants in Politics Cork https://www.facebook.com/events/245548092831466/

Country City

Ireland Cork

#### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The event was organised as a joint effort of migrant interest groups in Cork under the banner of the Cork City of Sanctuary Movement.

## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

The political participation of migrants is relatively low. Migrant interest groups want to alter this.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

Increasing the political participation of migrants.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing migrant communities about their political rights and the importance of their vote, encouraging them to use this vote and become political active.

## **Target group**

Migrants from the region, including EU citizens.

## Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The main activity was a learning conference. Migrants, representatives of political parties and independents met each other during the event. Participants received information how migrants can engage and participate in politics. Transportation costs were to be reimbursed.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The learning conference was organised in Cork on 22 September 2018.

## Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The event was organised as a joint effort of migrant interest groups in Cork under the banner of the Cork City of Sanctuary Movement.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?













It is unknown whether mobile EU citizens were among the participants. They do fall within the target group.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

42 people indicated on Facebook they attended the event, 190 others were interested.

## Was the practice efficient?

The long-term effects of this learning conference are not known, but participants can spread the message further, so the information might reach beyond the 42 people who attend the event. The efficiency of the practice can be increased by ensuring there is a follow-up.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The practice can be replicated in other Member States, as organising a learning conference is a specific way to reach the target group. A follow-up meeting might be necessary to see whether the learning conference had had any effect. Learning conferences can also be organised on a regular basis in a different form, like sharing experiences and examples with each other.

#### Other information













## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

Shape your city: use your vote

https://www.corkcity.ie/en/council-services/services/community/community-initiatives/voter-

initiative-shape-your-city.html

http://corkbusiness.ie/cork-city-council-launches-campaign-encourage-foreign-workers-vote/

Country

Ireland Cork

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The municipality of Cork City.

## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

Not all foreigners, including EU citizens, living in Cork City are registered on the electoral list, know how to register or know what their voting rights are. The municipality of Cork wants to increase the political participation of this target group.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

To explain new foreigners and immigrants of Cork City how the registration process for the elections works and to explain the advantages of becoming active participants in civic life.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing foreigners living in Cork City about the registration process for the elections and the upcoming elections. Explaining the advantages of becoming politically active, encouraging people to participate in the elections.

## **Target group**

New foreigners and immigrants living in Cork City, including EU citizens.

## Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

There was a kick-off event of the voter registration campaign named 'Shape your city: use your vote' on 27 August 2018. There have been voter engagement events organised and photos of these events posted on social media with the hashtag 'shape your city'. The campaign organises events with other organisations, like the International Club Cork or goes to an existing one like the Cork Chinese New Year Festival.

# When and where were the activities carried out?

The start of the campaign was in August 2018 and will be running until the municipal elections in















May 2019. The campaign is being carried out in Cork City.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The municipality of Cork City.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

It is unknown how many mobile EU citizens have participated in events so far. Since they are part of the target group, we can assume they have at least been passive receivers of the campaign.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

To know whether the campaign was successful we need to contact Cork City Council. But it might also be too soon to tell as the first upcoming municipal and European elections are in May 2019. However, on social media there are messages of people registering for the elections. At one event there were 30+ registrations.

## Was the practice efficient?

The campaign is a mix of social media coverage and events. Social media helps to generate extra attention as people can share and spread photos and message related to the registration campaign. Not all events are organised by the municipality itself, they choose events where internationals are being expected. This saves them time. Also people who are not actively looking for registration events, can be reached this way. This is an efficient way of spreading the message of the campaign.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Being actively involved as a municipality in reaching out to foreigners in the community and involving them in the elections, is a practice that can definitely be replicated. By going to existing events where foreigners will be present and cooperating with other organisations, like international clubs, the municipality does not have to invest a lot of time in creating its own events and they will reach a lot of people who would otherwise not have been reached.

#### Other information













# Co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union

**Identifying information** 

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Citizens information

https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/government\_in\_ireland/elections\_and\_referenda/local\_elections/local\_elections.html

Country

Ireland N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Citizensinformation.ie

**Description of the practice** 

Which problem does the practice address?

Citizens in Ireland looking for information about the elections can find it on this website.

What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens about the registration process for the elections, the requirements to be eligible to vote and the elections itself.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing all citizens living in Ireland about the registration process for the elections and the upcoming elections.

**Target group** 

All citizens living in Ireland, including EU citizens.

Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?

A website with information about the elections that take place in the country.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible for people with internet access and always available.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The website Citizensinformation.ie is an Irish eGovernment initiative.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information published on the website.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its













#### success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people are consulting the website every year.

# Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. The information for the elections is available in English as this is the official language of the country and the government does not need to make an extra effort to translate information in order for foreigners to understand, as most have English as their second language. So this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Ireland has an advantage as the official language is English and this is usually the second (or third, or fourth) language of foreigners coming to reside in the UK. Making the website of the government available in English is a practice that can be replicated in other Member States.

**Other information** 













**Identifying information** 

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Dublin

https://dublin.ie/

Country

Ireland Dublin

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Municipality of Dublin

**Description of the practice** 

Which problem does the practice address?

New citizens, including EU citizens, in Dublin looking for information about living in the city.

What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens about all aspects of living in Dublin, including finding work, accommodation, studying and culture.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing newcomers in Dublin about all relevant information concerning living in/ relocating to the city, including information on visa, the weather, culture, sports, authorities, working and studying.

Target group

Newcomers in Dublin, including EU citizens.

Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?

A website with information about living in Dublin.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible for people with internet access and always available.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The website is an initiative of the municipality of Dublin.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information published on the website.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).















The municipality uses statistics to get an overview of the number of visitors and where they come from, but these numbers are not publicly available.

# Was the practice efficient?

The team behind the website used a Pay Per Click advertising tool to target EU online visitors. This is said to have led to a 'significant' increase in visitors and a decrease in the bounce rate (the number of people that look at more than only the homepage). This shows that the use of the tool was efficient. In addition, the information on the website is in English, which is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for details regarding living in Dublin.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Creating a special website for newcomers in a city in English might not be feasible for all municipalities in the EU. However, the idea is good and can certainly be replicated by the bigger cities that receive a considerable number of mobile EU citizens. Another option is for governments to take up this role and create a nationwide website for newcomers in their country.

#### Other information















# Italy

# **Identifying information**

#### Name of the project

Participation matters

Website

http://participationmatters.eu/



Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/LaPartecipazioneConta/

Country City

Italy

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

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Other partners:

INSPIRE - Verein fur Bildung und Management AUSTRIA

MPDL - Movimiento por la Paz - SPAIN

ANCI – Associazione Nazionale Comuni Italiani – Toscana – ITALY

ANCI - Associazione Nazionale Comuni Italiani - Emilia-Romagna ITALY

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

In last decade, the presence of citizens from different European Union countries (the so-called mobile European citizens) has grown considerably in Italy, reaching almost one and a half million people. These flow of people led to a significant increase in the number of European citizens who can vote for administrative and European elections, although the latest data show that the percentage of voters is very low. The number of people applying for municipal elections and the direct involvement of mobile European citizens in the life of the parties are also limited.

We can identify many obstacles to participation: lack or limited availability of information, lack of interest due to the perception that political participation has no impact on daily life, bureaucratic obstacles to registration on the electoral lists added, lack of interest on the part political parties to involve European citizens as active members.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

The general objective of this project is to foster the successful inclusion and participation of mobile EU citizens in the host EU country's civic and political life, improving knowledge and raise awareness on political rights deriving from European citizenship.















# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Its specific objectives are: to improve the knowledge and expertise of local authorities on this topic and enhance their contribution to a greater political inclusion of EU mobile citizens; to improve knowledge, increase awareness and promote active engagement of European mobile citizens and their associations on the political rights linked to the status of European citizen; to boost the role of political parties and national authorities in removing the obstacles to political participation of European mobile citizens; to raise awareness of the general public on the political rights deriving from European citizenship.

## **Target group**

Direct beneficiaries of the activities of the project are EU citizens living in European countries of which they are not nationals and their associations. Other beneficiaries will be local authorities and other stakeholders that have an interest in higher levels of political participation by EU movers.

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

- Participatory meetings with local authorities, aimed at identifying, innovative ways to inform about and promote voting rights of EU mobile citizens.
- Testing of innovative procedures and practices by local authorities aimed at promoting a complete and effective information on voting rights.
- Digital storytelling videos, to give value to the personal stories of political engagement and civic participation of EU mobile citizens.
- Awareness raising events and initiatives organized with EU mobile citizens' organizations.
- A social media campaign targeted to EU movers.
- Training courses of 'education to politics' addressed to EU mobile citizens who have a strong interest in direct political participation.
- Guidelines for local authorities that will illustrate the most effective procedures aimed at promoting a complete and effective information on electoral rights.
- Handbooks for EU mobile citizens, with practical information on how to register and how to vote.
- European Handbook on best practices, which illustrates the best practices in fostering political participation carried out by municipalities and EU movers associations.
- European exchange meeting, held in order to exchange experiences and good practices among local authorities and EU movers associations.
- Awareness raising and advocacy meetings with political parties and national authorities, in order to raise their awareness and to promote changes aimed at facilitating the exercise of voting.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

From January 2016 to December 2017

Italy

Austria













#### Spain

## Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Regional authorities, Municipalities, political parties, EU movers associations, training centres, local media.

## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

They participated to workshops, seminars and training courses aimed to promote their voting rights and political participation.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The project took into consideration a time span of almost one year, with data surveys on those registered in the electoral lists at the time the project was launched and at the end, when activities were completed and results were returned.

The strengths of Anci Emilia Romagna's work in this area consist in having organised wide-ranging initiatives, open to the local communities and including representatives of EU citizens standing for election, political activists and prominent spokespeople from the most representative communities. Anci Toscana focused instead on specific operational meetings for technicians from different offices in order to gather their skills and define communication tools to convey information on voting rights and making them accessible to a wider user base.

Following the data collection, specific communications including the procedures for registering on electoral lists were sent to those entitled to vote. Each municipality chose a letter model to be sent with all the information and contact details of the offices.

A video on young people's participation in public life was produced. On the basis of relationships with local high schools, the municipalities identified some students who were available to talk about the participatory activities in which they are involved, political activity in Italy, what it means to exercise one's vote and their impressions on how well the system is able to involve the new generations in participatory mechanisms. Second-level secondary schools are a privileged observatory of integration and participation processes and it has been used to promote various initiatives.

#### Was the practice efficient?

Yes

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.













existing

transferability

The most effective practices, that can be replicated in other member states are the following:

#### Data monitoring

What has emerged is that a serious plan to promote participation requires the work of data collection, starting from a numerical survey of the electoral office and involving other offices such as the register office, the immigration office, the URP and the cultural affairs office. It is advisable the involvement of all those offices and the use of communication tools to keep in touch with the various local communities (ex. specific mailing lists).

# Public meetings and operations meetings

The organization of public meetings between local administrators and the most representative communities, involving municipal technicians such as General Affairs, Immigration Service, Electoral Office and Cultural Affairs.

The risks for this type of activity are the difficulty of implementing participated initiatives and realising the numerical implementation of those registered at the offices. To such ends, it may be useful to seek the participation of community leaders to various meetings and serious communication work can carry out jointly.

#### Information material

In Italy bureaucratic issues make registration procedures difficult (registering on the lists at least 90 days before the European elections and 40 days before the administrative elections). Moreover, unlike what happens for Italian citizens, who are automatically registered, in some municipalities, registration must be carried out again every time one changes their place of residence.

This mechanism is clearly still perceived as discrimination to overcome. For this reason, it is vitally important to produce clear and exhaustive communications on voting procedures, better if translated into the languages spoken by EU citizens, facilitating the dissemination of practical information using specific pages the municipalities' websites.

The produced video is another important dissemination material to be targeted at young people. Students and teachers can watch the video on YouTube, giving them a motivating proposition for discussions on the subject in all youth related contexts. The video will also be used in the future for other events organized by the administrations which will involve youth centres, associations, schools and other local authorities.

#### Other information



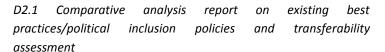












# **Identifying information**

Name of the project

Website

**Operation Vote** 



Country

Italy Several Italian cities

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

**Cospe Onlus** 



Other partner countries:

Austria, Portugal, Spain, Sweden

#### **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

At the Italian administrative elections of June 2014, which involved 4000 municipalities, only 30 EU citizens were elected. For the upcoming European elections, the EU citizens resident in Italy registered at the electoral offices to vote are only 80.356 out of 1,500,000 (equal to 5.35% of the potential voters). Although in 2014 there is a sign of growth in participation for the most represented nationalities in our country (59.5% increase for Romanian citizens and 48% for Bulgarian citizens compared to the 2009 European elections), the political participation of citizens community residents is still very poor. In Tuscany, in particular, out of 110,741 EU resident citizens, only 1319 are registered on the electoral lists for the European Parliament and 3804 at the administrative level (sources: Tuscany Region election office October 2013 and Istat 2011). As an example, out of 77.138 Romanians, who are the most numerous EU citizens in our region, only 1.6% registered to vote at the European and 15.9% at the administrative.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

The "Operation Vote" campaign, carried out in Italy by COSPE before the European and local elections of May 2014, aimed at raising awareness among EU citizens about their electoral rights, through a close cooperation with citizens' associations coming from European countries and Local societies.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Increase the political participation of EU citizens in order to promote a real European citizenship.

#### Target group

Mobile EU citizens living in Italy.

## Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?















## Communication campaign

- Animated video (www.youtube.com/watch?v=9 sbtkKWI2c) for local TV,
- Distribution of informational brochures
- Public posters
- Informational campaign on local and national radio stations
- Final workshop titled "Operation vote", Florence 14th October 2014

When and where were the activities carried out?

April 2011 – March 2014 Tuscany region (Italy).

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Migrant associations from European countries and local authorities.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

They were informed though the campaign initiatives and active participated to the workshop in Florence.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

For example, the Municipality of Rome implemented the Operation Vote project on the occasion of the 2013 local elections. The electoral campaign was carried out in four languages: Italian, German, French and English. The dissemination of information, both though the institutional web of the municipality and multilingual posters, has had the effect of increasing the registration for the vote of the EU citizens. The interest shown by local institutions has encouraged the start of a process political inclusion of the many citizens communities residing in Rome. Out of almost 80.000 Romanians residing in the capital, according to data released by Romanians in Italy, in 2008 only 539 were registered to vote, they became 618 in August 2013 and 4.416 in May 2013. This testifies that targeted campaigns and actions to promote participation, realized in synergy between local institutions and associations of EU mobile citizens, may have significant impacts on enrolment to the electoral lists and to the participation in the vote, even if the gap to be filled is still wide.

Was the practice efficient?

Yes

# Transferability assessment

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

This practice can be easily duplicated in other cities or counties and it appears to produce a great benefit with low resources.

Other information













## Any other relevant information

# **Identifying information**

## Name of the project

Multilingual communication campaign



#### Website

http://www.comune.riano.rm.it

Country

Italy Riano (Roma)

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Riano municipality

#### **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Riano municipality, near to Rome, has a wide Romanian community (1.400 Romanian citizens out of 9.000 inhabitants), which are politically unrepresented.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

Attempt to abolish any linguistic barrier, we can consider a symbolic action aimed at raising citizens' awareness on taking the part of the institutions.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Reinforce the representativeness of the Romanian community in the territory favouring the process of political inclusion.

# **Target group**

Romanian community of citizens.

# Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

On occasion of last municipal elections, the political forces conducted a bilingual electoral campaign in Italian and Romanian. Some parties have also translated the lists of candidates, organizing multilingual assemblies, a communication campaign on the web and brochure aimed to bring resident European citizens closer to the local political arena.

In 2013, Gabriel Pirjolea was elected as the first municipal councillor of Romanian origin of Riano, appointed by the Mayor as a delegate for intercultural projects, relations with foreign communities and tourism.













#### When and where were the activities carried out?

On correspondence of administrative elections of 2011, 2016 and European elections of 2014, 2019.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Riano municipality, Romanian citizens, political parties.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Romanian citizens' association were invited to participate to the initiatives and distribute the information material. A representative of the community has become municipal councillor.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The participation of the community to the vote increase of 35%.

Was the practice efficient?

Yes

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

This practice can be easily transferred to other member state since it is easy to set up and produces effective results.

#### Other information













# **Identifying information**

Name of the project

Integrated plan for immigration policies

Website

Country City

Italy Tuscany region

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Regione Toscana

## **Description of the practice**

Which problem does the practice address?

Lack of participation of EU mobile citizens to regional political life.

What is the key goal of the practice?

GENERAL OBJECTIVE: REPRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION of EU CITIZENS TO THE PUBLIC LIFE As part of the processes of participation in public life of foreign citizens, it is promoted a strong synergistic enhancement of the plurality of associative and institutional contexts in which such participation develops.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Specific objectives:

- 1) Promotion of legislative initiatives at national level aimed at the extension of the right to vote to non-EU citizens and promotion of the effective exercise of the right to vote by citizens of the European Union.
- 2) Qualification and extension in the regional territory of organisms consultants such as the foreigners' Councils and Consultations aimed at encouraging their participation in the local public life

## **Target group**

EU and extra-EU citizens, clearly not involved into political issues and not participating to vote.

#### Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?

Strengthening of the Regional Coordination of Foreigners' Councils and Consultations and carrying out a training course

❖ Following the reconstitution of a Regional Coordination of Councils and Consultations of the foreigners with the appointment of a coordinator and with the adoption of a specific regulation that regulates the functioning, it is necessary to promote its strengthening and















continuity of action in collaboration with ANCI Toscana. The Regional Coordination of Foreigners' Councils and Consultations through periodic meetings and meetings which favour an adequate qualification of the individual councils and consulates present in the territories with a strengthening of relations with the bodies of local authorities and with the context foreign and indigenous associations.

❖ In particular, in the first half of 2013 a training course was developed aimed at allowing the representatives of the Foreigners' Councils and Consultations to acquire the essential notions on functioning of local authorities and of the entire national and European institutional system.

Public communication to support participation processes:

- Promotion of the online publication "Prospettive"
- Organization of meetings and events on topics of common interest to EU mobile citizens aimed to increase their visibility in the social context.

# When and where were the activities carried out?

The activities have been carried out from 2012 to 2015 in Tuscany.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Tuscany regional council, municipalities and local authorities, professional training agencies.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Several foreign citizens associations were involved into the organization of the initiatives, while the representatives of the Foreigners' Councils and Consultations attended the training course.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The activated paths, aimed to carry out a promotion of the rights of the foreign citizens (UE and No-UE), produced an improvement of active participation: 10 new Foreigners' Councils and Consultations were born, the number of participants to the councils has increased up to 75 units, 13 training courses were organized throughout Tuscany region with around 100 attendants.

8 informational meetings have been held, sponsored by local foreign citizens' associations.

# Was the practice efficient?

Yes

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The practice can be easily replicated by other regional authorities interested into promoting the participation of EU mobile citizens to political life.













#### Other information

#### Any other relevant information

Integrated plan for immigration policies is attached.

**Identifying information** 

Name of the project

**Inclusion policies** 

Website

Country

Italy Arezzo

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Municipality of Arezzo



## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

The lack of interest among Europe's voting citizens with regard to the European Parliament elections casts a shadow over the EU's commitment to political participation and democratic values. Not only do EU elections hold little political relevance next to national electoral cycles, but voters are also lost in the EU's labyrinth of accountability.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

The creation of initiatives capable of activating virtuous processes of social inclusion and policy through the collaboration between local institutions and civil society.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Incentive and sensitize the EU mobile citizen living in Arezzo, in particular the Romanian community, to exercise their political rights.

#### **Target group**

EU mobile citizens living in Arezzo.

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

- The Councillor for Immigration of the Municipality of Arezzo and head of the immigration sector of Anci Toscana sent a letter to all Mayors of the Region encouraging them to take concrete actions to raise awareness on the right to vote of resident EU citizens.
- The Romanian community has taken action in promoting electoral participation, in view of















the candidacy of three Romanian citizens including Aurelia Ceoromila (Democratic Party), president of the Dacii association of Arezzo.

- The "House of cultures" becomes a point of reference for the foreign communities of all origins, an element that contributes to the creation of increasingly professional and longterm services.
- Promotion of voting for EU mobile citizens on Arezzo TV https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hEPIpcemxpA

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The activities were carried out in Arezzo from 2012 to 2015.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Local authorities, foreign citizens' associations, TV and media.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

The Romanian community took an active part into the vote participation activities, promoting its candidate among foreign citizens.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The collaboration between local institutions and Romanian associations, allowed to substantially increase the number of registered on the electoral lists and weakening the bureaucratic barrier represented from the registration procedures to the lists.

Was the practice efficient?

Yes

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Every municipality can and should replicate this good practice, which seems to have been very effective.

#### Other information















## Latvia

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Elections

https://www.cvk.lv/en

Country

Latvia N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Central Election Commission of Latvia.

# **Description of the practice**

# Which problem does the practice address?

Not all foreigners (and Latvians) know the ins and outs concerning the elections that take place in the country. Foreigners living in Latvia who are looking for information about the elections in the country and the registration process can find it on the website of the Central Election Commission.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens about the elections that take place in the country and related information.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Provide information on all aspects of the different elections in the country.

#### Target group

Citizens in Latvia, including EU citizens.

## Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The website of the Central Election Commission of Latvia provides information on the elections that take place in the country in English, Latvian and Russian. Currently, the website is focused on the upcoming EP elections in May 2019. People can find information, among other things, on the registration process, polling stations and voting options.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all people with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Central Election Commission of Latvia, an elected public institution.













## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people have visited the website.

## Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for the elections is available in three languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in three languages is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for government to do this and they will easier reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote. Especially with more languages available a bigger group of mobile EU citizens can be reached.

#### Other information















# **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Long-term stay in Latvia

https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/en/home/services/registration-cards.html

Country

Latvia N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Latvian Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs.

# **Description of the practice**

# Which problem does the practice address?

EU citizens moving to Latvia do not always know what is expected from them in terms of documentation. This website provides all the information and documents that mobile EU citizens will need.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform (potential) EU citizens about the documents that are required for a long-term stay.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information about the requirements for a long-term stay and providing documents that need to be filled in.

# **Target group**

EU citizens living in Latvia or those planning to move there.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The website of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs of Latvia is available in Latvian, English and Russian. On the website EU citizens can find information on the documents that are required for a long term stay and where these documents need to be filed.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to everyone with internet access.

# Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Latvian Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs, a state institution that falls under the supervision of the Ministry of Interior of Republic.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?













Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information on the website.

## **Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice**

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people have visited the website.

## Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information on long-term stay in Latvia is available in three languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in three languages is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for a state institution to do this and they will easier reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote. Especially with more languages available a bigger group of mobile EU citizens can be reached.

Other information















## Lithuania

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

I Choose Lithuania

https://www.renkuosilietuva.lt/en/

Country

Lithuania N/A

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Migration information centre (MIC) "I Choose Lithuania". MIC was established in 2015 in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration and the Lithuanian government.

# **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

11% of the foreigners living in Lithuania are EU citizens. Not all of them know the ins and outs of living in the country (e.g. getting residence permits, a driver's license, finding language classes).

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

Informing foreigners, including EU citizens, about living in Lithuania.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing foreigners, including EU citizens, about different aspects of living (long-term) in Lithuania.

#### **Target group**

Foreigners living in Lithuania, including EU citizens.

## Implementation of the practice

# What were the main activities carried out?

A website of the Migration information centre (MIC) "I Choose Lithuania" for foreigners living in Lithuania. The website is available in English, Russian and Lithuanian. Visitors can find information on all aspects of living in the country, including residence permits, drivers licenses and language classes.

# When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is available to all people with internet access. The target group of the website are foreigners living in Lithuania.

# Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Migration information centre (MIC) "I Choose Lithuania". MIC was established in 2015 in













cooperation with the International Organization for Migration and the Lithuanian government.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visited the website.

## Was the practice efficient?

Having a website where a lot of information can be found on living in Lithuania is valuable for people moving or planning to move there. As the information only needs to be updated one in while, investing in such a website and the translation in English, the practice can be labelled efficient. Although we do not know how many people visit the website, we can assume that people who are planning to move to the country will find this website.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Having one website in multiple languages where information can be found on different aspects of living in the country is a practice that can be replicated. It is a good service for the potential new citizens and I will help with starting their life in a new country. It will also help the municipalities as they will receive less questions of the answer can be found on the website.

Other information













# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

#Markasftw

http://markasftw.com

Country

Lithuania Vilnius

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Mark Adam Harold.

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Mark Adam Harold, a UK citizen, ran in 2015 for the city council of Vilnius for the political party Liberalų Sąjūdis. His campaign on his website was in English, although he speaks fluently Lithuanian. According to him, he was a European candidate for a European city. The FAQ page on his website answers questions in both English and Lithuanian. His campaign could be understood by both Lithuanian and non-Lithuanian speakers.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform all people in the world about Vilnius and also the non-speaking citizens who live in the city.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Being elected as city councillor of Vilnius for Liberalų Sąjūdis, informing people about Vilnius, including non-Lithuanian speaking citizens, making Vilnius a better city.

#### **Target group**

All citizens living in Vilnius, including EU citizens.

## Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

Mark Adam Harold, a UK citizen, ran in 2015 for the city council of Vilnius. His campaign on his website was in English, although he speaks fluently Lithuanian. According to him, he was a European candidate for a European city. The FAQ page on his website answers questions in both English and Lithuanian. Mr Harold combines politics with humour.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

His campaign ran in 2015 in Vilnius as part of the municipal elections. His website is available to all people with internet access. He regularly post updates about his work as a city councillor in English













best



#### and Lithuanian.

## Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Mark Adam Harold, Vilnius city councillor and night mayor. He was the first non-citizen to be elected in public office in the country.

## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mark Adam Harold is a mobile EU citizen from the UK. He actively played a role in his own campaign to be elected and is now city councillor in Vilnius.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The campaign of Mark Adam Harold was successful as he was elected as city councillor in Vilnius. He was the first non-citizen to be elected in public office in the country.

#### Was the practice efficient?

Mark Adam Harold ran for the city council as an independent. He speaks English and Lithuanian and updates his own website with blogposts. As he speaks both languages fluently, it is easy for him to campaign in the two languages and communicate with people. His website is easy to use and the texts are written in an attractive way. The practice was/is thus efficient.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Every mobile EU citizen can be a candidate for the municipal elections. But most of them do not have their own website where the programme and other information is also available in another language. This is something that political parties and candidate can replicate. Making information available in, at least, English will equip EU citizens better to make an informed decision about whom to vote for.

#### Other information















# Luxembourg

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

I can vote

https://jepeuxvoter.public.lu/en.html

https://luxtimes.lu/archives/19078-luxembourg-campaign-rallies-expats-to-vote-in-european-

elections

Country City

Luxembourg N/A

# Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The ministry of Family Affairs, Integration and the Greater Region, coordinated by the Luxembourg Reception and Integration Agency (OLAI), in partnership with the liaison office of the European Parliament in Luxembourg.

#### **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

In 2014, an awareness campaign was launched for EU citizens living in Luxembourg to encourage them to participate in the elections of the European Parliament of 2014. The same campaign was being launched for the elections in May 2019. The political participation of EU citizens in the country is relatively low.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

To encourage EU citizens living in Luxembourg to register themselves for the elections of the European Parliament and to exercise their voting rights.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Making EU citizens aware of the voting rights in Luxembourg, encouraging them to register for the European elections and to participate in these elections.

# **Target group**

EU citizens living in Luxembourg.

#### Implementation of the practice

# What were the main activities carried out?

In 2014, the awareness campaign consisted of website (the same that is now being used for the elections of 2019), adverts, stands, leaflets and a registration day in different communes in the country. Flyers for the 2019 campaign were published in ten languages and the posters in five. On the website information can be found on how many days are left for registering, who can vote, why















they should vote and how to vote. The website is available in five languages (French, German, English, Portuguese and Luxembourgish).

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The campaign for the European elections of 2014 was carried out in that year, for the elections of 2019, the campaign is still ongoing. The campaign takes place across the whole of Luxembourg.

#### Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The ministry of Family Affairs, Integration and the Greater Region, coordinated by the Luxembourg Reception and Integration Agency (OLAI), in partnership with the liaison office of the European Parliament in Luxembourg.

## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are being approached by the government and encourage to become politically active, but are otherwise passive receivers.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

For the upcoming elections of 2019, this is not yet known. For the elections of 2014, not results were publicised, but the numbers can be asked at the ministry of Family Affairs or OLAI. As the campaign is being repeated, it is probable that it created some effect.

## Was the practice efficient?

This is difficult to assess as the current campaign is still ongoing, but as the government is repeating the campaign, it must have been perceived a success the first time.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Approaching EU citizens actively to involve them in the elections in the country (local or European) is a practice than can be replicated by other Member States. Making information available regarding the elections and the registration process in different languages helps to inform mobile EU citizens. Certain part of the information provided only need to be translated once, other parts (e.g. deadlines) will need to be updated with every election.

#### Other information















## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

I vote in Luxembourg

https://luxtimes.lu/archives/21252-new-website-helps-foreign-nationals-to-get-their-voice-heard-in-luxembourg-s-elections

https://www.asti.lu/je-vote/

https://www.asti.lu/wp-content/uploads/misc/je vote 2017.html

Country

Luxembourg N/A

# Name of the responsible authority or organisation

ASTI, financed by OLAI, Chambre des Salaries Luxembourg and the liaison office of the European Parliament in Luxembourg.

## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

The political participation of foreigners in Luxembourg is relatively low. This has also to do with the fact that can citizens can only vote in the municipal elections after 5 years of residence. A lack of knowledge about the elections and the registration process is also present among foreigners living in the country. In 2017, 590,667 people lived in the country of which 48% were foreign nationals.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

To encourage foreigners to register themselves on the electoral role and participate in the elections in Luxembourg.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing foreigners, including EU citizens, about the different elections that take place in Luxembourg, informing them about the registration process, encouraging them to register, encouraging them to participate in the elections.

## **Target group**

Foreigners, including EU citizens, living in Luxembourg.

## Implementation of the practice

# What were the main activities carried out?

An interactive website with information on all elections that take place in the country, with visitors having to click or drag the right answers. They receive the information as they navigate through the website. Each election has also a quiz with fifteen or twenty questions.

When and where were the activities carried out?



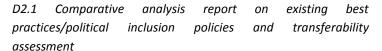














The website is accessible for people with internet access and is aimed at foreigners living in Luxembourg.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

ASTI, the migrant workers' association, financed by OLAI, Chambre des Salaries Luxembourg and the liaison office of the European Parliament in Luxembourg.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens can use the website to find information about the elections and they can take the quiz. They are only passive users.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The number of visits and the number of played quizzes need to be asked from ASTI.

#### Was the practice efficient?

The website is not easy to find, which decreases the efficiency of this practice. As the content of the website only needed to be translated once in English, this was a onetime investment. The website was created in 2017 and can still be used with every upcoming election.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

An interactive website with quizzes can be an attractive and fun tool for EU citizens who want to know more about the elections in their host country. It can also attract the younger voters, e.g. Erasmus students.

Other information

Any other relevant information

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative Website

Electoral system

http://luxembourg.public.lu/en/le-grand-duche-se-presente/systeme-politique/systeme-













electoral/index.html

Country

Luxembourg N/A

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

# **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

The website informs citizens in Luxembourg about the different elections that take place in the country.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens about the elections, the eligibility of voters and the registration process.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing citizens, including EU citizens, about the different elections that take place in Luxembourg, informing them about the registration process and their eligibility.

## **Target group**

Citizens living in Luxembourg, including EU nationals.

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

A website in English, French and German with information on all elections that take place in the country.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible for people with internet access and is aimed at all citizens living in Luxembourg.

# Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

# Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens can use the website to find information about the elections, but they are only passive users.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The number of visits is unknown.













# Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for the elections is available in two languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

**Transferability assessment** 

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in three languages is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for government body to do this and they will easier reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote.

**Other information** 













best

transferability



## Malta

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Website of the Electoral Commission Malta

https://electoral.gov.mt/

Country City

Malta N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Electoral Commission Malta.

# **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Not all citizens living in Malta, including EU citizens, have all the knowledge prepared regarding the elections that take place in the country. Those looking for information on the elections can find it on this website.

What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens about the elections, their voting rights and the results.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information on the election results, providing information on the elections, giving people the opportunity through filling in an application form to serve at a polling station.

# **Target group**

All citizens living in Malta, who want to know more about their voting rights and the elections.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The website of the Electoral Commission Malta provides information on all elections and referenda that take place in Malta. In addition, applications forms to serve as polling place officer or counting staff can be found here. The results of the elections can also be found on the website. The website is in English and Maltese.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible for people with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?



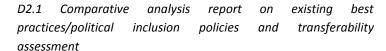














The Electoral Commission Malta.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many visitors they website has per year.

# Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for the elections is available in two languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in two languages is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for government body to do this and they will easier reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote.

## **Other information**

Identifying information	
Name of the practice/policy/initiative	
Website	
Elections in Malta	
https://www.um.edu.mt/electionsdata/home	
Country	City
Malta	N/A
Name of the responsible authority or organisation	
The University of Malta	















## **Description of the practice**

# Which problem does the practice address?

Not all citizens living in Malta, including EU citizens, have all the knowledge prepared regarding the elections that take place in the country. Those looking for information on the elections can find it on this website.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

To provide reliable information on the elections and the electoral system in Malta. The university is not affiliated with a political party.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information on the electoral system in Malta.

#### **Target group**

All people who would to have more information on the Maltese elections and the electoral system.

## Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

A website in English and Maltese, providing information on the Maltese elections and the electoral system.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible for all people with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The University of Malta.

## Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visit the website each year.

# Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for the elections is available in two languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country. The university needed to translate the information only once and with visiting professors and international students they provide this target with information. As a university, there is probably a translator available and they can use their own website, this makes the practice efficient.













# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in two languages is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for the university to do this and they will easier reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote. Universities reach young voters and might attract a different public than government websites.

**Other information** 















## **Netherlands**

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Kiesraad

https://english.kiesraad.nl/

City Country

The Netherlands N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Electoral Council of the Netherlands.

## **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

Not all citizens in the Netherlands, including EU citizens and municipalities know all ins and outs on the elections that take place in the country, e.g. receiving of the voting pass, how to vote.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

The Electoral Council is a knowledge and information source regarding suffrage and elections for, among others, voters.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing news regarding the elections, providing information on the elections (dates, voting passes, how to vote), informing citizens and municipalities.

# **Target group**

For all citizens, including EU mobile citizens, living in the Netherlands and Dutch municipalities.

#### Implementation of the practice

# What were the main activities carried out?

A website with information of all elections that are taking place in the Netherlands. The website is in English and in Dutch. Explained is on what date the elections take place, which people are eligible to vote, how to vote and how they receive their voting pass. Also news regarding elections is posted on the website. An Election Information Point is set up when it is election time. Here citizens can ask any questions they have regarding the upcoming election.

## When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all persons with internet access. The Election Information Points are set up when it is election time.















## Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Electoral Council of the Netherlands. This is a central electoral committee, an advisory body and an information centre in the field of franchise and elections.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

EU mobile citizens were only passive received of the information provided on the website.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

In 2017, the website was 1,186,599 times consulted. There is separate data on the consultation in English and Dutch. The page "Electoral Act in Brief" was visited by 582 persons the same year. An Elections Information Point was set up for the municipality elections (21/03/2018) and the referendum concerning the Wiv (same date). In the first two months, 1071 questions were submitted.

#### Was the practice efficient?

The website was consulted in English by visitors. The information on the website is updated when there is news. The Electoral Council does not need to approach EU citizens actively; they have to find the website themselves. Since the non-Dutch speakers are able to find the website, the practice is efficient.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in two languages is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for government to do this and they will easier reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote.

Other information















## **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

Rock the vote!

https://www.parool.nl/verkiezingen/engelstalig-verkiezingsfeest-voor-expats-in-de-

marktkantine~a4575663/

https://www.facebook.com/events/1838094776224557/

Country

The Netherlands Amsterdam

#### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The political party GroenLinks organised the event, but also invited four other political parties, whom could all present their viewpoints.

### Description of the practice

# Which problem does the practice address?

Almost 80.000 expats and international students are living in Amsterdam. According to the Green party, GroenLinks, a lot of them do not know they have the right to vote.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

Informing foreigners about the municipal elections of Amsterdam.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information about the municipal elections in Amsterdam, presenting the point of views of five political parties, making foreigners familiar with local politics.

### **Target group**

Foreigners living in Amsterdam, including EU citizens.

### Implementation of the practice

# What were the main activities carried out?

The municipal elections in the Netherlands were on 21 March 2018. GroenLinks organised a preelection party on 19 March 2018. Interested people could attend for free and receive information about the elections, listen to short interviews with five parties (GroenLinks, D66, PvdA, VVD and SP) and a one-minute pitch by the party leaders. Afterwards, there was a party with two DJs.

#### The programme:

- 20.30 Welcome speech by Greg Scott Shapiro
- 20.45 Why vote in Amsterdam?
- 21.00 Short interviews of party leaders
- 21.15 One-minute pitches by party leaders
- -- Party afterwards! With DJs:















Reraber, resident at Disco Dolly

When and where were the activities carried out?

The pre-election party was held on 19 March 2018 in Amsterdam.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The political party GroenLinks organised the event, but also invited four other political parties, whom could all present their viewpoints.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens could come to the party and listen to the candidates. Afterwards there was a party were they could mingle with other foreigners and, possibly, discuss about the elections.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

122 said on Facebook they would attend the event and 351 people were interested. The Dutch newspaper NRC counted around 200 attendees.

# Was the practice efficient?

The political parties got a chance to present their programme to foreigners, including EU citizens, and foreigners got an opportunity to learn more about the political parties and the election in Amsterdam. As everyone met in one place and the event was in English, it was really tailored for the target group.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

An election party or another type of event, where politicians and EU citizens meet each other, is a practice that can be replicated. This way, the EU citizens as well as the political parties can communicate in a focused way with each other. Extra information can be provided on elections in general and this way, EU citizens can feel more involved in the elections and the society where they live in.

#### Other information



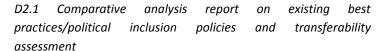














### **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Let's catch up to vote

https://www.hollandexpatcenter.com/events/Let-s-Catch-Up-to-vote.html?id=6343

Country

The Netherlands Maastricht

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Holland Expat Center.

# **Description of the practice**

# Which problem does the practice address?

Not all foreigners, including EU citizens, living in Maastricht know they can vote and know the programme of the political parties.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

To learn non-Dutch citizens more about the municipal elections and to introduce them to the political parties.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing foreigners about the municipal elections in Maastricht, providing the opportunity for political parties and non-Dutch citizens to meet and go into discussion with each other.

# **Target group**

Non-Dutch citizens living in Maastricht, including EU citizens.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

On 3 March 2018 an event in English was organised in Maastricht by the governmental agency, Holland Expat Center, to inform non-Dutch citizens about the municipal elections of 21 March 2018 and to give them an opportunity to speak with representatives of the political parties. After a short introduction of the municipal elections, there was an opportunity to speed date with representatives of the political parties.

# Program

10:00-10:30 Welcome with coffee/tea and pastries

10:30-10:35 Word of welcome by Holland Expat Center South and Europe Direct

10:35-10:45 General introduction to the municipal elections by the Advisor to the City Council

10:45-12:15 Speed dates with representatives of political parties

12:15-12:30 Conclusion by the Mayor of Maastricht, Annemarie Penn-te Strake

12:30 END















#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The event took place on 3 March 2018 in Maastricht.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Holland Expat Center is a non-profit governmental agency. It is a joint initiative of the participating municipalities (Tilburg, Eindhoven and Maastricht), the Immigration and Naturalisation Services (IND), Brainport Development, and the provinces of Noord-Brabant and Limburg.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens could come to the event and speak with the representatives of the political parties. They were actively involved during the event.

#### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

On Facebook, 42 people said they attended the event and 144 people were interested.

#### Was the practice efficient?

Foreigners, including EU citizens, got a chance to speak with the representatives of political parties and in this way were able to receive information in English about the political programmes. As everyone met in one place and the event was in English, it was really tailored for the target group.

### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

A speed date with politicians or another type of event, where politicians and EU citizens meet each other, is a practice that can be replicated. This way, the EU citizens as well as the political parties can communicate in a focused way with each other. Extra information can be provided on elections in general and this way, EU citizens can feel more involved in the elections and the society where they live in.

### Other information













# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

**Kieskompas** 

https://resource.wur.nl/nl/show/Kieskompas-ook-in-het-Engels.htm

Country

The Netherlands Wageningen

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Kieskompas/ political party Connect Wageningen, student union SAW, student council party S&I, IxESN, ISOW, student association Ceres, the associations for students from Thailand, Indonesia and African countries and the PhD coordinator of the research school PE&RC (Production Ecology & Resource Conservation).

### **Description of the practice**

### Which problem does the practice address?

In the municipality of Wageningen, there is a high percentage of international citizens living. This is, among others, due to the Wageningen University. In 2015/2016, the university counted almost 2400 students from other EU countries. A big part of them were eligible to vote in the municipal elections of 2018. But the political programmes of political parties were mostly in Dutch just as Kieskompas (an online tool with questions to see which political party is closest to your own ideas).

# What is the key goal of the practice?

To include non-Dutch speakers in the elections and through this increase the political participation of foreigners.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing the opportunity to fill in Kieskompas in English.

# **Target group**

Non-Dutch speakers, including EU citizens, in Wageningen.

## Implementation of the practice

### What were the main activities carried out?

The translation of Kieskompas to English for the municipal elections in Wageningen in 2018.

# When and where were the activities carried out?

Kieskompas was translated to English before the municipal elections in Wageningen. Kieskompas always has questions for every municipality, but these are only available in Dutch. For Wageningen there was the option to answer the questions in Dutch and English as different actors had asked for this.















### Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Kieskompas is a social enterprise that is specialised in the developing online and offline voting tools. Several actors asked Kieskompas to provide an English version of the online tool. These were: Political party Connect Wageningen, student union SAW, student council party S&I, IxESN, ISOW, student association Ceres, the associations for students from Thailand, Indonesia and African countries and the PhD coordinator of the research school PE&RC (Production Ecology & Resource Conservation).

#### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

The political party Connect Wageningen focuses itself on students, internationals and newcomers to the municipality, but does not have mobile EU citizens in its team. EU citizens could fill in Kieskompas to get an idea of where they belong on the Dutch political spectrum.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people filled in the English version of Kieskompas. This can probably be asked from Kieskompas itself.

### Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. Several actors asked for the translation of the online tool, so they might have promoted it and as there a lot of non-Dutch speakers living in Wageningen, this might have had an effect on the political participation. Making such a tool available for non-Dutch speakers increases the chances of political participation and as Kieskompas accepted the request of the different actors it does not seem that take a lot of extra effort to provide this kind of service.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Translating an online voting tool is a practice than be replicated as a lot of voters would like to fill in such a tool. Non-native speakers will be left out if this is not possible for them and it might lead to a lack of interest in local politics if they are not able to understand information and political programmes. An online voting tool is also a good first step for EU citizens to get an idea of which parties they might be interested in. Then they search for more detailed information themselves.

### Other information















### **Poland**

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

City is Ours - City Movements electoral list

https://ruchymiejskie.waw.pl/english/

Country

Poland Warsaw

### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The political platform "City is Ours – City Movements electoral list" (KWW Miasto Jest Nasze – Ruchy Miejskie).

# **Description of the practice**

### Which problem does the practice address?

Non all non-Polish speakers know they can vote in the municipal elections and/or know how to register for this. In addition, not all political parties provide information on their programme in English.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

To include non-Polish speakers in the municipal elections of Warsaw.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Explaining the voting process for the municipal elections of Warsaw, informing about the political programme of 'City is Ours'.

# **Target group**

The English version of the website is meant for EU citizens living in Warsaw.

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The political platform "City is Ours – City Movements electoral list" (KWW Miasto Jest Nasze – Ruchy Miejskie) ran for the municipal elections of Warsaw on 21 October 2018 and also had a candidate for mayor of the city. The website with the programme of the party is in English and Polish and they actively focus on EU citizens by also explaining how they can vote in the municipal elections of Warsaw.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all persons with internet access, aimed at citizens living in Warsaw. The















campaign of 'City is Ours' ran in 2018.

### Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The political platform "City is Ours – City Movements electoral list" (KWW Miasto Jest Nasze – Ruchy Miejskie). "City is Ours" considers itself an independent, progressive citizen platform and consists of a coalition of 12 local grass-root movements representing 16 districts of Warsaw.

### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens were passive receivers during the campaign and also of the information provided on the website.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many EU citizens voted for the platform. The candidate for the position of mayor was not elected. It is also unknown how many people used the platform to register for the elections, but one can imagine that EU citizens searching for information will come across this website.

### Was the practice efficient?

The political platform could use its own website for providing information in English about their programme and advertising the registration process. The information on this process was on a different website, but with the logo of party on it. So, potential voters could also look at the political ideas of the party. This was of advantage for the platform, advocating the registration process, while gaining attention for their programme. They killed two birds with one stone.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

It is a good practice to provide information on the registration process on the website of a political party in English. This can be replicated by other parties. The goal is to increase the political participation of EU citizens and if those citizens decide to vote for the party which provided registration information, then this is a bonus for the political party.

#### Other information













# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Information for a long-term stay

https://udsc.gov.pl/en/cudzoziemcy/obywatele-ue-oraz-eogszwajcarii-i-czlonkowie-ich-rodzin/

Country

Poland N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Office for Foreigners of Poland.

**Description of the practice** 

Which problem does the practice address?

Not all EU citizens know what is required when they would like to stay for more than three months.

What is the key goal of the practice?

To provide EU citizens with information on residing in Poland for more than three months and the requirements they need to fulfil.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information on all aspects of residing in Poland for more than three months, providing the applications forms that need to be filled in.

**Target group** 

EU citizens who want to reside in Poland.

Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?

A website of the Office for Foreigners in Poland with information for EU citizens in English and Russian on the requirements of residing in the country. Application forms can be found on the website as well.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is available in Polish, English and Russian and is accessible to all persons with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Office for Foreigners of Poland (not affiliated with the government).

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are passive receivers of the information that is provided on the website.













# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visit the website per year.

### Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for staying in Poland is available in three languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on this topic.

# Transferability assessment

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

One website where EU citizens can find all information for a long-term stay in multiple languages can be replicated by other Member States. A government body can be responsible for this or a NGO. This will make it easier for mobile EU citizens to find the information they need, when they do not need to consult multiple websites and/or organisations.

Other information















# **Portugal**

**Identifying information** 

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

**ACM** 

https://www.acm.gov.pt/kitrefugiados

Country

Portugal N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

ACM, the High Commission for Migration.

### **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

Foreigners, including EU citizens, arriving in Portugal do not know immediately all the information regarding living in Portugal. Nor do they always speak the language when they arrive.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

To provide foreigners with information about their rights and obligations in order for them to settle more easily in Portugal.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing a welcome kit in five languages, providing a dictionary in five languages, providing common expressions in five languages, providing information about music and culture in five languages, providing information about history and society in five languages, providing information about programmes for children in five languages, providing information on learning and speaking Portuguese in five languages.

#### Target group

Foreigners living in or moving to Portugal.

### Implementation of the practice

### What were the main activities carried out?

The website of ACM, the High Commission for Migration, provides information on a wide range of topics all related to living and working in Portugal. The website is available in English and Portuguese. Also a welcome kit can be downloaded from the website, with the rights and obligations being explained and frequently asked questions being answered. In addition, there is a dictionary, common expressions and information about music and culture, history, programmes for children and learning and speaking Portuguese. All these documents are available in five languages, e.g. English, French, Arabic.













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#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is always accessible for people with internet access. The information packages can always be downloaded.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

ACM, the High Commission for Migration is a public Institution that is directly dependent of the Presidency of the Ministers Council.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people have downloaded the welcome kit and have visited the website.

### Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for staying in Portugal is available in five languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on this topic.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

One website where EU citizens can find all information for a long-term stay in multiple languages can be replicated by other Member States. A government body can be responsible for this or a NGO. This will make it easier for mobile EU citizens to find the information they need, when they do not need to consult multiple websites and/or organisations.

Other information









# **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Participation in the elections

https://www.jf-estrela.pt/para-si/apoio-comunitario/recenseamento-para-estrangeiros/

Country

Portugal Lisbon

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The municipality of Lisbon.

# **Description of the practice**

# Which problem does the practice address?

Not all foreigners living in Lisbon are aware of their voting rights and not all of them know when the municipal elections take place.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

To mobilise foreign voters in Lisbon to register and become involved in the elections.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing foreign voters about the elections, mobilising them to register, encouraging them to become politically involved.

### **Target group**

Foreigners living in Lisbon.

### Implementation of the practice

### What were the main activities carried out?

The municipality of Lisbon has a banner on its website addressing foreigners, including EU citizens to register for the upcoming EU elections in May 2019. The banner is in Portuguese, English and French. There is also a little information to be found in these languages on the how many days before the election people have to register and where they have to go. The same banner and information was used for the local elections in 2013.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The banner was used for the local elections in 2013 in Lisbon and is currently being used for the European elections in May 2019.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The municipality of Lisbon.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?













Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information.

### **Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice**

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people saw the banner and acted upon it.

# Was the practice efficient?

The banner has already been reused, so for the municipality it was only a onetime investment. They will also be able to use it again for other elections and the banner can be posted online and printed out and put up in some public places.

### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

A general banner encouraging EU citizens to vote in different languages can be replicated in other Member States. As the information is general, it only needs to be once translated and can then be used for any other election.

**Other information** 















#### Romania

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Voting in the EP elections

http://www.dri.gov.ro/ghidul-alegatorului-alegerea-membrilor-din-romania-in-parlamentul-

european/

Country

Romania N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Department for Interethnic Relations (DIR).

**Description of the practice** 

Which problem does the practice address?

Not all EU citizens knew they could vote in Romania for the EP elections of 2014 and how this worked.

What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform EU citizens about their right to vote in Romania for the EP elections.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information on the eligibility of voters, when to vote, where to vote and how to vote.

**Target group** 

EU citizens living in Romania.

Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?

The Department for Interethnic Relations (DIR) developed a guide for voting in the EP elections of 2014 in 17 languages, among e.g., German, Italian and Polish. The guide provided information on who could vote, when, where and how.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The documents were produced in 2014, but are still available on the website.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Department for Interethnic Relations (DIR).

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?













Mobile EU citizens were only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how often the documents were downloaded.

#### Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of downloads, this is difficult to assess. But the information for the elections is available in 17 languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the EP elections.

### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in 17 languages is a practice than can be replicated. Depending on the exact content, this can be a onetime investment for governments to do and in this way it is easier to reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote. Especially with more languages available a bigger group of mobile EU citizens can be reached.

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Any other	er relevant	inforn	nation
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Identifying information		
Name of the practice/policy/initiative		
Website		
Guide for EU citizens		
/ (Source: Fair EU country report Romania)		
Country	City	
Romania	N/A	
Name of the responsible authority or orga	anisation	
Electoral Authority.		
Description of the practice		





Which problem does the practice address?









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Not all EU citizens were aware of their voting rights in the municipal elections of Romania in 2012.

What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform EU citizens about their right to vote in Romania for the local elections.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information about the requirements for active and passive voting.

Target group

EU citizens living in Romania.

Implementation of the practice

What were the main activities carried out?

The Electoral Authority of Romania created a guide for EU citizens in English and Romanian for the local elections of 2012 with information about the requirements for active and passive voting. In addition, a video clip was made about the right to vote for foreigners and national citizens, which was promoted by the main Romanian TV station.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The guide was created in 2012 and aimed at EU citizens living in Romania.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Electoral Authority.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens were only passive receivers of the information provided in the guide.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many times the guides have been downloaded.

Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for the elections is available in two languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information about the local elections that take place in the country.

**Transferability assessment** 

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in two languages is a practice than can be replicated. It is a















onetime investment for government to do this and this way it will be easier to reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote. Especially with more languages available a bigger group of mobile EU citizens can be reached.

**Other information** 















### Slovakia

# **Identifying information**

### Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

Information on regional and European elections

 $\underline{\text{https://www.raca.sk/5113-en/local-and-regional-elections-european-parliament-elections/}}$ 

http://www.minv.sk/swift\_data/source/verejna\_sprava/volby\_a\_referendum/120\_ep/ep19\_3tav/W\_EP19\_Info7enA3.docx

Country

Slovakia Bratislava

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The municipality of Bratislava and the Ministry of Interior of Slovakia.

### **Description of the practice**

### Which problem does the practice address?

Not all foreigners living in Slovakia know the ins and outs of the elections that take place in the country.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

To provide information about the elections to non-Slovak speakers in the country.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing foreigners about the different elections that take place in the country, informing them about their voting rights.

# **Target group**

Foreigners living in Bratislava/ Slovakia.

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The municipality of Bratislava and the Ministry of Interior provide information in English on the local, regional and European elections. The website of the municipality also provides information on other topics such as housing and health services.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The information is available online.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?













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The municipality of Bratislava and the Ministry of Interior of Slovakia.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided online.

# **Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice**

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The number of visits to the website are not public, but can be asked from the municipality of Bratislava and the Ministry of Interior.

# Was the practice efficient?

The information on the website of the Ministry of Interior is difficult to find. In that sense, it decreases the efficiency. The website of the municipality of Bratislava provides also information on other topics, like taxes. People can thus find information on different topics on one website. Also, the information about the elections is available in English and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making information on government websites available in English (or more languages) is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for government to do this and it will be easier to reach mobile EU citizens. Especially with more languages available a bigger group of mobile EU citizens can be reached.

#### Other information

Any other relevant information

### **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

The Bratislava Plan

https://www.planbratislava.sk/en

Country City

Slovakia Bratislava

Name of the responsible authority or organisation















Matúš Vallo, mayor of Bratislava.

#### **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

The campaigns for election of the mayor of Bratislava are usually only in Slovak. Non-Slovak speakers are thus not able to make an informed choice.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

To address the internationals living in Bratislava and inform them about the civic organisation and, during the election campaign, to give them an idea about the issues Matúš Vallo found important.

#### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Presenting a plan for the city, informing foreigners about the political ideas of Matúš Vallo, inviting people to become involved with the platform.

### **Target group**

Citizens of Bratislava, including non-Slovak speakers.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

In November 2018, were the elections for the mayor of Bratislava. Only one candidate, Matúš Vallo, had a website in English. This website is of Platform pre Bratislavu, which is an independent civic organisation. The aim of this organisation is to identify issues within the municipality and to suggest solutions to this. Everyone interested can sign up to become a member of the platform. This is also the case for internationals living in Bratislava.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is still accessible. The campaign was carried out in 2018.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Matúš Vallo, mayor of Bratislava.

### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens can become involved with the platform. For the campaign, they were only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Matúš Vallo was elected as mayor.

Was the practice efficient?















It is unknown to what extent votes of EU citizens helped Matúš Vallo being elected. The website of the platform is available in English and Slovak and they used the website both for the political programme of Matúš Vallo as for the Bratislava project.

### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in English is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for politicians, but they can, depending on the country and municipality, reach a big audience with it. This can influence the amount of votes they will receive. In addition, it can increase the political participation of EU citizens.

# Other information

Any other relevant information

For information on one additional best practice, namely KohoVolit, please see under Czech Republic.















### Slovenia

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Residing in Slovenia

https://infotujci.si/en/third-country-nationals/

Country

Slovenia N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Republic of Slovenia.

## **Description of the practice**

### Which problem does the practice address?

Foreigners, including EU citizens, arriving in Slovenia do not always know the requirements regarding a long-term stay.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform EU citizens (and third-country nationals) about living in Slovenia and the requirements for residing there.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information about entering the country, submitting a residence application, providing information about health care, social security, etc.

## **Target group**

EU citizens and other foreigners wishing to reside in Slovenia.

#### Implementation of the practice

### What were the main activities carried out?

A website for EU citizens and third-country nationals in English and Slovenian with information on residing in Slovenia, employment, health care and other topics.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all persons with internet access and aimed at people wishing to stay in Slovenia for the long-term.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Republic of Slovenia.













# Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visit the website every year and how many of them are mobile EU citizens.

#### Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information on a long-term stay is available in English and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for this kind of information.

# Transferability assessment

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in English is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for government to do this and it will be easier to reach mobile EU citizens who are looking for specific information on a long-term stay in the country.

#### Other information

Any ot	her re	levant in	formatior
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Name of the practice/policy/	nitiative	
Website		
Slovenian government		
http://www.vlada.si/en/		
Country	City	
Slovenia	N/A	













The government of the republic of Slovenia.

### **Description of the practice**

### Which problem does the practice address?

Internationals might be looking for information on the political system in Slovenia and news related to the government.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform internationals living in Slovenia about the political system and government related news.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing people about the Slovenian government and providing people with the latest news and updates regarding the work of the government.

#### **Target group**

Internationals living in Slovenia.

### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The website of the Slovenian government, as well as all websites of the different ministries, is available in English and Slovenian. The also produce a weekly newsletter in English with updates on the work of the government.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible for all persons with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The government of the republic of Slovenia.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visit the English pages of the website and how many people read the weekly newsletter.

### Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the government information is available in English and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for news and information regarding the government.

### **Transferability assessment**















Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making government information available in English is a practice than can be replicated. It makes the work of the government more transparent for mobile EU citizens who not speak the native languages (or not good enough). Providing information in English can also foster the integration process as people know better what is happening in their host country.

Other information

An۱	other /	rele	vant	info	orma	ition

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

The State Election Commission of Slovenia

http://www.dvk-rs.si/index.php/en/where-and-how-to-vote/the-electoral-system-in-slovenia

Country

Slovenia N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The State Election Commission.

**Description of the practice** 

Which problem does the practice address?

Not all foreigners know they have voting rights in Slovenia and when and how to vote.

What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform internationals in Slovenia about the elections that take place, if they have a right to vote and how they can vote.

What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information voting rights, general voting, early voting, postal voting, voting outside the district of permanent residence, voting at polling stations with disabled access, voting at home, voting abroad and the electoral system in Slovenia.

**Target group** 















EU citizens and third-country nationals who wish to gain more information voting rights and elections in Slovenia.

# Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The website of the State Election Commission of Slovenia is available in English, Italian, Hungarian and Slovenian and provides visitors with information on the elections that take place in the country and the voting rights of the citizens.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all people with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The State Election Commission.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people are consulting the website on a yearly basis.

#### Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for the elections is available in four languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in four languages is a practice than can be replicated. It is a onetime investment for government to do this and it will be easier to reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote. Especially with more languages available a bigger group of mobile EU citizens can be reached.

# Other information













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# Spain

# **Identifying information**

### Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Mi ciudad, mi voto.

La meva ciutat, el meu vot.

My city, my vote

#### Website



https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/censat/ (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4W-ibfgcseY)

Country/city

City

Spain

Barcelona

### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Ajuntament de Barcelona - The Barcelona City Council.

Project co-funded by the Rights Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union (2014-2020)

### **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

It addresses the problem of low political participation in the European/local elections in Barcelona by EU citizens. It is estimated that the number of people that could have the right to vote is of 106,000, therefore, the number of European citizens who can vote for administrative and European elections is quite high. However, in the 2015 elections, only 20,300 people registered in the electoral census to vote.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

The general objective of this initiative is to inform EU mobile citizens about their political rights, how to register, and to encourage them to vote, improving knowledge and raising awareness.

This initiative wants to reach 15,000 voters from the EU in order to foster their participation in the 2019 elections.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- To inform EU mobile citizens about their political rights.
- To encourage citizens to vote.
- To increase the number of people registered in the electoral roll from 17% to 40%.
- To improve knowledge, increase awareness and promote the active engagement of nonnationals citizens.
- To promote democracy, political participation and the sense of belonging amongst EU citizens.















- To contribute to a better understanding of the obstacles to political participation of EU mobile citizens and the most efficient tools to overcome them.
- To advise other cities and help them replicate this campaign to enhance political participation.

#### **Target group**

EU mobile citizens living in Barcelona

### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

- A report about political participation of European Citizens and the process to register.
- A campaign to promote the registration in the electoral roll.
- Information workshops to inspire and help other cities to carry out similar measures.

These activities were carried out using several tools:

- Website with information
- Audio-visual materials in different languages
- Information letters
- Information events
- Telephone helpline

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The activities began to take place on October 2018 and the programme has a duration of 2 years.

### Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The local authorities: the Barcelona City Council, the area of Citizenship's Rights, Culture, Participation and Transparency of the Barcelona City Council and the local consulates. This initiative is funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union (2014-2020).

### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Yes. EU mobile citizens were taped on video and uploaded to YouTube with a short message encouraging other EU mobile citizens to register and vote.

Here are some examples:

UK - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4W-ibfgcseY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4W-ibfgcseY</a>

IT - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hBrDmbe2Jzk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hBrDmbe2Jzk</a>

FR - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w73GCIM-Qww

DE - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-QEQndmeH4

PT - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QluSCqwUsc

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

Given the results in the elections of the last few years, especially in 2011 and 2015, in which the political participation was worryingly low, the prospects are very positive. The programme is still ongoing therefore the results are yet to yield specific figures but, it is expected to increase the













political participation of non-nationals citizens to 40%.

Was the practice efficient?

This initiative is still ongoing.

**Transferability assessment** 

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Given that the campaign aims at inclusion, providing information, and encouraging political participation of UE citizens it could be easily transferred.

First of all, the activities and materials for these purposes are already translated into different languages, it would only be needed to adapt pieces of information to the needs of the country to which it is being transferred.

Secondly, this initiative was created with the aim to be transferable and replicated in other cities, and therefore includes workshops for this purpose.

And lastly, it is a programme funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union (2014-2020) and one of its goals is to be replicated in other cities.

Other information

Any other relevant information

# **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Hazte Oir

Dissemination of information regarding voting rights

Website

http://cepaim.org/extranjero-residente-espana-hazte-oir-con-tu-voto-en-las-proximas-elecciones-municipales/

Country/city City

Spain Madrid

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Fundación Cepaim. Convivencia y cohesión social.

**Description of the practice** 















# Which problem does the practice address?

This initiative aimed at providing information about voting rights. Non-nationals citizens, in many cases, are not aware of their voting rights or the procedures for registering in the electoral roll to vote. In addition, they frequently do not know who to ask or where to go for information, so it is hard for them to access this information. This initiative wanted to offer information to non-national citizens to improve their knowledge and facilitate their registering process.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

The key goal of the initiative is to inform the foreign citizens about their political rights, and to provide them with all the information needed in order to participate in local elections.

# What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- To inform foreign citizens about who can vote.
- To inform foreign citizens about their political rights.
- To inform them about the requirements for registering in the electoral roll.
- To encourage them to vote.
- To facilitate information about the documents foreigners needs to fill in and submit, in order to participate.
- To inform foreigners where to send these documents and the deadlines, as well as provide information about where to go to be informed.

### **Target group**

- Foreign citizens living in Spain.

#### Implementation of the practice

# What were the main activities carried out?

- Publication of news regarding the rights of the EU mobile citizens and non-EU citizens (this includes social, economic and political rights).
- Provision of specific information about voting.
- Publication of links to other related websites of interest.
- Provision of a telephone helpline of the Electoral Census Office to get detailed information or inform about any incident.
- Creation of a social media account in order to reach other European citizens and disseminate this information.

### When and where were the activities carried out?

This initiative was developed between December 2014 and the end of 2015, coinciding with the registration period in the electoral roll to vote.

### Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Fundación Cepaim, an independent organisation that provides solutions to social dynamics related to migration and social exclusion processes.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?















Officially they did not participate in the creation of this initiative; however, it has a comment section in which EU and non-EU citizens ask questions regarding their voting rights and other EU/non-EU citizens answer those questions, so they participated indirectly in its development.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

In total, there were 464,074 foreigners that were enrolled for the 2015 elections in Spain, and over 441.198 (95%) were EU mobile citizens. Moreover, the initiative was very active during 2015, with almost 100 comments of foreigners asking questions about their rights. Fundación Cepaim was actively replying to doubts and question, providing a satisfactory answer to users.

The number of registrations of EU mobile citizens in the electoral roll grew between 2011 and 2015 by 7,528 registrants.

Therefore, foreigners were able to learn more about their rights and improve their knowledge, meeting the initiative's goal. The initiative was successful and therefore Fundación Cepaim kept the website active, even though the activity decreased over the following years.

Furthermore, they extended this initiative to the 2019 elections, creating the same actions: http://cepaim.org/elecciones-municipales-de-26-de-mayo-de-2019-puedo-votar/

### Was the practice efficient?

Yes, the practice was effective to spread information and the number of registration of EU mobile citizens grew.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Yes, it could be used by other countries.

Given that the main aim of this practice is to inform mobile EU citizens, the only requirement would be to adapt the information to each country in order to inform about specific procedures.

This kind of initiatives also encourages the participation of the citizens in the comment section, which does not need any adaptations.

# Other information















# **Identifying information**

# Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Guía práctica para extranjeros/as residentes en España. Elecciones municipales y europeas. Practical guidelines for foreigners living in Spain. European and local elections.

#### Website

https://aragon.podemos.info/guia-practica-de-voto-para-migrantes-residentes-en-espana/

Country/city

City

Spain

Aragón (Autonomous community)

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Podemos Aragón

### **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

There is generalised lack of information about the process of who can vote, how and when. Mobile EU citizens and other non-EU citizens, in many cases, are not aware of their voting rights or the procedures to enrol in the electoral roll in order to vote. Many of them do not where to access this information and do not ask. As a result, they do not vote and therefore are excluded from the political participation in their local areas.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

The key goal of this initiative is to inform foreigners living in Spain about their political rights, and to provide them with all the information needed in order to participate in the municipal and European elections.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- To inform foreigners living in Spain about their political rights.
- To inform foreigners living in Spain about the requirements and documentation needed to enrol in the electoral roll.
- Provide the specific form that each foreigner needs to fill in depending on their situation and the instructions to submit it, in English, German and French.
- To encourage them to vote.
- To inform foreigners living in Spain about where to submit the necessary documents, the deadlines, and where to obtain detailed information or apply for other documents.

## **Target group**

EU mobile citizens and non-EU citizens living in Spain.

Implementation of the practice















#### What were the main activities carried out?

The guide was distributed as a computer graphic, detailing step by step what foreign citizens residing in Spain must do in order to take part in the 2019 elections in May.

The guide answers the most frequently asked questions such as 'Who can vote?' or 'What do I have to do?' or 'How much time do I have?'. Each question is answered simply and it is targeted at foreigners to encourage them to vote.

- Publication of a guide about political rights and the process to vote amongst foreign population living in Spain.
- Disseminate information through the social media, specially through Twitter.
- The usage of the hashtag #VotarEsTuDerecho, to encourage people to share their experiences, concerns or doubts.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

It was an initiative that took place between 2018 and early 2019.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The political party Podemos, particularly Podemos Aragón.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Not officially or directly.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

This initiative is still in process and the elections have not taken place yet, therefore it difficult to determine whether it will bring the expected results. It is possible to analyse to which extent the practice was disseminated by looking at the reactions it had on social media, or the number of shares the post had on Twitter. There were more almost 40 posts in Twitter with infographics of this guide and over 3200 retweets.

The number of registrations of foreigners registered in the electoral roll has grown between 2015 and 2019 by 2,242 registrants, but the initiative is still ongoing and the elections have not taken place yet, therefore, this number is expected to grow more in the next few months.

# Was the practice efficient?

Yes, it is proving efficient, but the initiative is still ongoing.

# **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Yes, it could be used by other countries. Given that the main aim of this initiative is to inform foreign citizens, the only requirement would be to adapt the information to the country that wants to implement this practice. For instance, the deadlines for filling in the information, or the













way in which people can obtain the documents needed. The hashtag could also be adapted and so people in different countries could also talk and express their ideas.

#### Other information

Any other relevant information

# **Identifying information**

## Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Guía para inmigrantes Guide for immigrants

#### Website

http://observatoridesc.org/es/node/4248

Country/city City

Spain Barcelona

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Observatori Desc

### **Description of the practice**

# Which problem does the practice address?

The main problem this practice addresses is the political exclusion of immigrants and the violation of their rights under the current regulation.

# What is the key goal of the practice?

This guide focuses on informing immigrants about legal aspects regarding politics, education, housing and other rights that many immigrants are not aware of, and therefore they cannot exercise their rights. It is a way of protecting foreigner's rights and prevent the violation of those rights.

For that, this guide includes legal aspects relating to the rights and duties that immigrants have recognized according to current legislation, as well as useful addresses that can allow them to make these rights and duties effective.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- To inform immigrants about their rights, including education, social, political and housing rights.
- To inform immigrants about the way politics work in Spain and who can participate in this process and how.
- To inform immigrants about their entry, residence, health, housing and political rights, and















their rights regarding free speech, free religion, and other rights.

### **Target group**

- Immigrants living in Spain.

### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

- Publication of a guide with information about immigrant's rights, including political rights.
- Publication of useful addresses that can allow them to make these rights and duties effective.
- Training courses and conferences aimed not only at immigrants but also to people who work with immigrants so that they can improve the performance of their jobs.
- Publication of studies regarding the living conditions of immigrants living in Spain.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

In the year 2003.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Observatori DESC and the Barcelona City Hall (Ajuntament de Barcelona).

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Not directly.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

In 2003 there were 153,405 foreigners registered to vote and 10.959 people were new registrants, however, as the year of implementation dates back more than 15 years, it is not possible to obtain further data.

#### Was the practice efficient?

Considering the number of new registrants it is expected the guide helped disseminate information.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Yes, it could be used by other countries. Any country can carry out a similar research and make a compilation of rights focusing on immigrants, and use the structure of the Spanish Guide in order to adapt the information to each particular country.

### Other information













# Co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union

# **Identifying information**

### Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Study. Political participation of immigrants in Spain: elections, representation and other spaces.

#### Website

https://idus.us.es/xmlui/bitstream/handle/11441/74083/317588-451484-1-SM-2-23.pdf?sequence=1

Country/city City

Seville Spain

### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

University of Seville and University of Huelva

### **Description of the practice**

### Which problem does the practice address?

This study analysis the situation of political participation of migrants in Spain in 2015/2016, including direct and indirect political participation, including low participation, measures taken into place and comparison of previous years.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

The key goal of this study is to analyse the situation of political participation of migrants in Spain.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- To analyse the political participation of migrants in Spain.
- To compare political direct participation of migrants in EU countries and non-EU countries.
- To disseminate concrete initiatives related to indirect political participation (local initiatives).

## **Target group**

All direct and indirect actors involved in political and social participation of immigrants in society.

## Implementation of the practice

### What were the main activities carried out?

- Research
- **Analysis**
- Interpretation of data
- Publication of the guide

When and where were the activities carried out?















This study took place in 2015/2016 in Andalucía, Spain.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The study was developed by the University of Seville and the University of Huelva and it was published by CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs).

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

No.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The expected results of this initiative was to analyse the political participation of migrants through an updated research and analysis, therefore, it accomplished its goal.

## Was the practice efficient?

The goal of this initiative was not to enhance political participation, but to shed light on the situation of political participation of migrants in Spain including low participation, measures taken into place and comparison of previous years. And for that, this initiative proved efficient and successful.

### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Yes. Studies are an excellent way to spread knowledge and data about a specific issue or, in this case, on the situation of political participation of migrants within EU countries. Therefore, a similar study would be a good practice to replicate as a valuation to start thinking about the most effective ways and strategies to promote both direct and indirect political participation of migrants within EU countries.

In spite of this fact, the study doesn't include the methodology used so it would be difficult to replicate it in the exact same way, but as long as the data can be obtained, it can be replicated.

#### Other information













best



### Sweden

## **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

ZigZag

https://www.zigzagforening.com/

https://euobserver.com/nordic/142644

Country City

Sweden Rosengard

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The movement ZigZag.

## **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

In the elections before the one of 2018, only 52 per cent of the voters in Rosengard went to the polling station compared to more than 90 per cent in other parts of Malmo. In Malmo live 182 nationalities and thirty per cent of the inhabitants was born outside Sweden.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

Mobilising voters to participate in the municipal elections.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing people about voting, encouraging them to vote, increasing the awareness of the importance of voting.

## **Target group**

Citizens of Rosengard (outside the centre of Malmo), especially young people with a migrant background.

## Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

A project of the movement ZigZag was aimed to increase the election turnout in socially vulnerable areas, Rosengard being one of them, for the elections of 9 September 2018. The movement focused itself on young people with a foreign background. They organised lectures, seminars and workshops in schools in order to increase the awareness of the importance of peoples voting right. ZigZag appointed 'democracy ambassadors' whose task it was to inform people about voting and getting people to vote.

When and where were the activities carried out?













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The activities took place in 2018 in and around Rosengard.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The movement ZigZag. Volunteers helped with the seminars and workshops.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

It is unknown whether mobile EU citizens were involved with ZigZag as volunteers. They might have come across the project during the festival.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

ZigZag was involvement in a political festival in Rosengard in August 2018. On this festival, it was for the first time that all political parties were present in this area.

### Was the practice efficient?

The volunteers of ZigZag went to an existing festival to encourage people to vote and they did not need to organise events themselves. They also organised workshops and seminars in schools, communicating directly with their target group. The places were chosen with efficiency as they knew the target group would be present there. They also worked with volunteers who, depending on the number of volunteers available, can divide the different events among themselves.

### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

An independent organisation providing workshops and seminars on school is a good way to communicate with the next generation. If they are now made more aware of the importance of voting, this can then have an impact later on. Therefore, it would be good to replicate this practice in other Member States, whether by an NGO, a government body or schools themselves.

Other information











### **Identifying information**

## Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

The Swedish electoral system

https://www.val.se/servicelankar/other-languages/english-engelska/the-swedish-electoral-system.html

Country

Sweden N/A

#### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Valmyndigheten.

### **Description of the practice**

### Which problem does the practice address?

Not all non-Swedish and Swedish speakers know everything about their voting rights and the elections that take place in the country.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform all citizens about their voting rights and the elections in Sweden.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information, among others, on the voting rights of people, the electoral system, the voting procedures and the election results. The amount of information differs per language.

## **Target group**

Citizens living in Sweden, including EU citizens.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

A website of the electoral authority providing information on the elections in thirty languages. Under some languages, for example English, more elaborated information can be found than under other languages.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible for all persons with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Valmyndigheten, the Swedish electoral authority.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.













### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visit the website per year.

### Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. But the information for the elections is available in thirty languages and this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

Making the information available in thirty languages is a practice that will take some effort to replicate. It is a onetime investment for government to do this and it will be to reach mobile EU citizens who are eligible to vote. Especially with more languages available a bigger group of mobile EU citizens can be reached.

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## **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Gothenburg and a Voluntary Sector Organization Public partnership (VSOPP) contract Report 'Welcome Europe Toolkit'

Country

Sweden Gothenburg

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The City of Gothenburg and a NGO

**Description of the practice** 

Which problem does the practice address?

There are mobile EU citizens in Gothenburg who are living in social and economic deprivation. With















the VSOPP contract, the city of Gothenburg wants to target this problem.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

To provide assistance to mobile EU citizens in Gothenburg who are living in social and economic deprivation.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

- -Provide advice on the rights of mobile EU citizens.
- -Open a day centre where excluded mobile citizens can go for their daily needs,
- -Open a night shelter with 35 places,
- -Open a special preschool for migrant Roma children,
- -Visit settlements and provide information to the people.

#### **Target group**

Mobile EU citizens who are living in social and economic deprivation in Gothenburg.

### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

- -There is an advice centre with knowledge of the rights of mobile EU citizens.
- -There is a day centre where excluded mobile citizens can go for their daily needs,
- -There is a night shelter with 35 places,
- -There is a special preschool for migrant Roma children,
- -There is a team that visits settlements and provide information to the people.

### When and where were the activities carried out?

The activities were carried out in the city of Gothenburg and the VOPP contract for EU citizens is active since autumn 2013.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The city of Gothenburg and a NGO.

#### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens in social and economic deprivation were receivers of the assistance and help that was provided by the municipality.

# Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many mobile EU citizens were helped.

## Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of people helped, this is difficult to assess. But it assumed that the combination of providing assistance and actively reaching out the target group is efficient.













## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The focus lies on a very specific group of mobile EU citizens. Other municipalities first need to establish if they have this target group living within their borders, where and what their economic and social situation is. The practice can be replicated as the target group is specific, just as the given assistance. It can help to improve the situation of these mobile EU citizens and also of the city itself.

Other information













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# **United Kingdom**

**Identifying information** 

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Your vote matters

https://www.yourvotematters.co.uk

Country

The UK N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The Electoral Commission.

### **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Not all citizens, including EU citizens, have enough knowledge on the elections that are taking place in the UK.

## What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens of the UK about all the elections that take place in the country.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information on the different elections in the UK, the registration process and the voting process.

#### **Target group**

All citizens in the UK, including EU citizens.

### Implementation of the practice

## What were the main activities carried out?

A website of the Electoral Commission with information of all elections that are taking place in the UK and additional information regarding registration and the different ways of voting. The website provides information regarding the registration to vote, the elections that take place in the UK and the different ways of voting.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all persons with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Electoral Commission is the independent body which oversees elections and regulates political













finance in the UK. It was set up in 2000 and reports to the UK and Scottish Parliaments.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visit the website per year.

## Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. The information for the elections is available in English as this is the official language of the country and the electoral commission does not need to make an extra effort to translate information in order for foreigners to understand, as most have English as their second language. So this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The UK has an advantage as the official language is English and this is usually the second (or third, or fourth) language of foreigners coming to reside in the UK. Making the website of the electoral commission available in English is a practice that can be replicated in other Member States.

## Other information

Any other relevant information

### **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

Living in Scotland

https://www.mygov.scot/living-visiting-scotland/living-in-scotland-government-democracy/

Country City

The UK (Scotland) N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation















The Scottish government.

#### **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Not all citizens, including EU citizens, living in Scotland have all the information regarding elections and available government services.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens about the government and elections.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Providing information on elections in Scotland, government services, filing a complaint about government services and the local council.

#### **Target group**

Citizens living in Scotland, including EU citizens.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The website provides information on living in Scotland and focusses, among other things, on accessing government services online, elections and referendums and registering to vote.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all persons with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The Scottish government.

#### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visit the website every year.

## Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. The information for the elections is available in English as this is the official language of the country and the government does not need to make an extra effort to translate information in order for foreigners to understand, as most have English as their second language. So this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.













### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The UK has an advantage as the official language is English and this is usually the second (or third, or fourth) language of foreigners coming to reside in the UK. Making the website of the government available in English is a practice that can be replicated in other Member States.

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identifying information
Name of the practice/policy/initiative
Website
Elections in the UK
https://www.gov.uk/elections-in-the-uk
Country City
The UK N/A

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

The UK government.

### **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Not all citizens in the UK, including EU citizens, know everything there is to know about the different elections that take place in the country.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

To inform citizens about the elections in the UK.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing about the different elections that take place in the country, informing about the registration process, informing about the voting requirement.

## **Target group**













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Citizens living in the UK, including EU citizens.

### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The website provides information on the different elections that take place in the country, the registration process and the ways of voting.

When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all persons with internet access.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

The UK government.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people are consulting the website every year.

### Was the practice efficient?

As there is no information available on the number of visitors, this is difficult to assess. The information for the elections is available in English as this is the official language of the country and the government does not need to make an extra effort to translate information in order for foreigners to understand, as most have English as their second language. So this is of advantage for mobile EU citizens searching for information on the elections that take place in the country.

## **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

The UK has an advantage as the official language is English and this is usually the second (or third, or fourth) language of foreigners coming to reside in the UK. Making the website of the government available in English is a practice that can be replicated in other Member States.

#### Other information













### **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

**TalentScotland** 

https://www.talentscotland.com/about-us

Country City

The UK (Scotland) N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

TalentScotland.

## **Description of the practice**

### Which problem does the practice address?

People wanting to move to Scotland and live and work there do not always know how to approach this to make the step.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

To attract people to come to Scotland and find a job there. They are especially looking for people in the science and technology and engineering sector.

## What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Encouraging people (especially from the science and technology and engineering sector) to move to Scotland, providing information on living and working in the country, providing specific information for EU citizens on permanent residence and family reunification.

#### **Target group**

People, EU and non-EU citizens, who want to work and/or live in Scotland.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The website TalentScotland provides information on living and working in Scotland. There are links that refer people to other website where they can find the information need in more detail, usually these are government websites. The website also provides information taxes, bank holidays and family reunification.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The website is accessible to all persons with internet access.

# Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

TalentScotland is part of the economic development agency Scottish Enterprise (a non-departmental body of the Scottish government).













### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

Mobile EU citizens are only passive receivers of the information provided on the website.

## Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown how many people visited the website and how many people contacted the organisation.

### Was the practice efficient?

It is unknown how many people have consulted the website and how many were convinced by it to move. But in general, people who are moving or just moved can find useful information here. The website is in the official language of the country and does not need to be translated as most mobile citizens speak English.

### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

If Member States have a lack of workers in a certain area, a website focused on this target group might help these people to make the move and come to the country. The website contains all information someone willing to move needs, from residence permit to finding a job.

## **Other information**















# **European Union**

## **Identifying information**

Name of the practice/policy/initiative

Website

**Operation Vote** 

http://participationmatters.eu/operation-vote/

http://theportugalnews.com/news/ngo-in-unprecedented-push-for-expat-vote/28774

Country

Austria, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Sweden N/A

Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Operation Vote, with the financial support of the Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme of the European Union.

### **Description of the practice**

#### Which problem does the practice address?

The political participation of mobile EU citizens in their host country is lower than that of national citizens.

#### What is the key goal of the practice?

To increase the political participation of mobile EU citizens in these countries.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Informing citizens about their voting rights for the local and European elections, produce information manuals in several languages, produce guidelines for local authorities, produce videos with stories about civic participation of mobile EU citizens, handing out leaflets.

#### **Target group**

EU mobile citizens living in another EU country.

## Implementation of the practice

### What were the main activities carried out?

The project Operation Vote was carried out in five countries (Austria, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Sweden) between 2012 and 2014. National campaigns were aimed at informing EU citizens about their voting rights for the local and EP elections during these years. The second part of the project ran from 2016 until 2017 in Austria, Italy and Spain. Information manuals were produced in several languages for voting in Austria, Italy and Spain and guidelines for local authorities in Italy, Austria and Spain were created. Videos with stories about the civic participation of mobile EU citizens were also published. Operation Vote also handed out leaflets in English in, e.g., Portugal.















#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The project Operation Vote was carried out in five countries (Austria, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Sweden) between 2012 and 2014. The second part of the project ran from 2016 until 2017 in Austria, Italy and Spain.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

Operation Vote, with the financial support of the Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme of the European Union.

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

It is likely that mobile EU citizens are involved in the project through the partners. Mobile EU citizens were also involved in videos that were made about their civic participation. Operation Vote actively approached mobile EU citizens to encouraging them to vote in the elections.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

The results of Operation Vote are unknown.

### Was the practice efficient?

It is difficult to assess whether the practice was efficient as we do not know the results of the project. But everything that was produced can be used again (maybe with slight adjustments), so the investments made are not wasted. The project addresses EU citizens and local authorities and thereby tries to create the biggest effect, by involving the two most important parties. This is an efficient approach.

### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

This practice requires cooperation between partners in different Member States, but the practice can also be replicated by one organisation in one country. Making local authorities aware of the voting rights of mobile EU citizens can help in raising awareness of addressing this group. Handing out leaflets can be useful when it is done on a place where numerous EU citizens come together (e.g. a specific event). Having a website with more information and social media can help to spread the information more easily among the community of EU citizens.

#### Other information













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# **Identifying information**

## Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

**APProach** 

https://www.project-approach.eu/#other-host

Country City

France, Italy, Greece, Belgium, Denmark, Paris, Milan, Nea Smyrni, Etterbeek, Vejle, Portugal, Poland, the Netherlands. Lisbon, Warsaw, Amsterdam

### Name of the responsible authority or organisation

By ALDA (lead partner) and the project partners: municipality of Paris (France), municipality of Milan (Italy), municipality of Nea Smyrni (Greece), municipality of Etterbeek (Belgium), municipality of Vejle (Denmark), municipality of Lisbon (Portugal) and the associate partners: municipality of Warsaw (Poland), municipality of Amsterdam (the Netherlands).

### **Description of the practice**

## Which problem does the practice address?

Mobile EU citizens may face obstacles when they move to another Member State, for example when it comes to voting or enrolling a child in a school.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

To reduce obstacles mobile EU citizens are facing and to promote active EU citizenship.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

Forwarding EU citizens to the website of their municipality, informing about the deadlines for voter registration in the guest country, promoting EU active citizenship, training local authorities, exchanging best practices, assessing efficiency of existing services, developing a digital environment, disseminating the results of the project at European level.

### **Target group**

EU citizens living in another EU country.

#### Implementation of the practice

#### What were the main activities carried out?

The project APProach is a pilot project aimed at EU citizens who are living in another EU country. Citizens can find information on three topics; the right to vote, enrolling in school and participating in the local life of the city. They will be automatically forwarded to the website of the city.

For whom: EU citizens living in another EU country.















#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The project is currently being run in eight countries.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?

By ALDA (lead partner) and the project partners: municipality of Paris (France), municipality of Milan (Italy), municipality of Nea Smyrni (Greece), municipality of Etterbeek (Belgium), municipality of Vejle (Denmark), municipality of Lisbon (Portugal) and the associate partners: municipality of Warsaw (Poland), municipality of Amsterdam (the Netherlands).

Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

A focus group with mobile EU citizens is planned to get to know the challenges, need and deficits of EU citizens' mobility. At ALDA also mobile EU citizens are working. The target group can use the website to actively search for information.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

This is unknown yet as the project was only recently launched.

### Was the practice efficient?

As the project was only recently launched, it is too early to tell whether the practice was efficient or not.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

This practice requires cooperation between municipalities in different Member States, but the practice can also be replicated by one municipality in one country. Making local authorities aware of the voting rights of mobile EU citizens can help in raising awareness of addressing this group. Having a website where mobile EU citizens can find all information regarding living in the municipality (voting, housing, schooling, etc.) can increase the involvement in the local life and decrease the obstacles that may be faced by EU citizens.

#### Other information

### Any other relevant information

## **Identifying information**













## Name of the practice/policy/initiative

#### Website

Local Welcome Policies EU Mobile Citizens

https://www.amsterdam.nl/bestuur-organisatie/organisatie/ruimte-economie/europa/europees-project/

Country

The Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Amsterdam, Brussels, Copenhagen, Dublin, Sweden, Germany Gothenburg, Hamburg

## Name of the responsible authority or organisation

Cities of Amsterdam (the Netherlands), Brussels (Belgium), Copenhagen (Denmark), Dublin (Ireland), Gothenburg (Sweden) and Hamburg (Germany) in collaboration with the University of Gothenburg and Mira Media Foundation.

#### **Description of the practice**

### Which problem does the practice address?

Mobile EU citizens may face obstacles when they move to another Member State, for example when it comes to registering or finding a job.

### What is the key goal of the practice?

To reduce obstacles mobile EU citizens are facing and produce recommendations where other European cities can draw upon.

### What are the specific objectives of this practice?

The aim of the project, which ran from January 2015 until December 2016, was:

- -to remove barriers linked to mobility,
- -to increase the political and civil participation of mobile EU citizens,
- -to promote an intercultural dialogue between people,
- -to implement monitoring and evaluating policies.

## **Target group**

EU citizens living in another EU country and municipalities within the EU.

#### Implementation of the practice

# What were the main activities carried out?

The project partners created a toolkit with local welcoming policies for mobile EU citizens, which includes topics as housing, health care and social inclusion. Recommendations are made on the local, national and European level.

#### When and where were the activities carried out?

The project ran from January 2015 until December 2016 in six European cities.

Who was involved in the implementation of the practice (authorities, volunteers, CSOs)?















Cities of Amsterdam (the Netherlands), Brussels (Belgium), Copenhagen (Denmark), Dublin (Ireland), Gothenburg (Sweden) and Hamburg (Germany) in collaboration with the University of Gothenburg and Mira Media Foundation.

### Did the practice involve mobile EU citizens? What was their role?

The different cities looked into their welcome and integration policies and searched for best practices that focused on mobile EU citizens. The focus was on policies and on recommendations for other municipalities and mobile EU citizens were only passive subjects.

### Effectiveness and efficiency of the practice

Did the practice bring expected results? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success (e.g. measurable outputs/results).

It is unknown to what extent the formulated recommendations were implemented by other municipalities.

## Was the practice efficient?

The involved municipalities looked at their own welcome and integration policies and looked for best practices within their municipalities. They made use of their own knowledge, which can be assessed as efficient.

#### **Transferability assessment**

Could the practice be replicated in other Member States? If yes, please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially replicable. If no, explain what else should be done.

As in this project recommendations were formulated for other municipalities, it would not be efficient to replicate the whole practice in its entirety. A follow-up of the project would be more fitting in order to see which of the recommendations can be implemented and what the effect is of these implementations.

#### Other information











