



CIVIS OPEN LABS

Transnational Project on Migration and Civic Engagement in CIVIS Universities – FINAL REPORT

SUMMARY

The aim of the project was to set up a common scenario to share initiatives within CIVIS Universities that connect stakeholders with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers needs. Particular activities took place with the purpose of providing visibility to these efforts and raise awareness on local communities. The project found match with ongoing projects and strengthen their development at an international scale giving European significance to the works of our institutions and enabling the inter-territorial transmission of knowledge. It also helped to establish the position of the Alliance around this topic and to find common denominators that let us reach more ambitious goals in the future, including plans to address, in collaboration with stakeholders, humanitarian crisis like the one derived from the war in Ukraine. The Open Lab and the Civis Engagement task forces tested this form of collaboration as a way to intensify transversal partnership among local entities and academics on global issues.

I. RELEVANCE OF THE PROPOSAL

CIVIS Open Labs were originally conceived under a [challenge-based approach](#) in order to implement a range of open science, grassroots, cooperative and innovative training activities, involving university communities and stakeholders, in response to the local needs and the regional strategies. After their establishment, the Open Labs deployed activities of that kind in the context of the projects launched in each territory.

With the present project, the network aimed to test the capability to develop a new model of transnational collaboration to face common challenges strongly enrooted in the [civic identity](#) of the Alliance, which allow us to emphasize the [open, inclusive & participatory](#) character of the Open Lab.



Thus, the project was an opportunity:

- To expand the cooperation between the members of the Alliance in the context of the local development.
- To find differentiating factor in comparison to other similar structures/initiatives.
- To embrace the civic values of the alliance, and contribute to the global fight for academic freedom.

Concerning migration, each territory of the Alliance presents a different context in practice, including different historical backgrounds and countries of origin in the migration flow. To find a clearer and deeper understanding of this complicated problem, the partners will provide insights throughout their internal units and regular collaborators in a first phase.

II. SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

With that purpose, the present project aimed at opening spaces for dialog in each University that specifically address the challenges of migrants and refugees in the different regions. Each institution organized activities (workshops, roundtables, ...) planned to give voice to the migrant community in order to gain visibility and raise awareness, as well as to identify potential lines of research and work between academics and experts. This approach contributed to the preparation of [dissemination materials](#) that were shared inside the network through the event in Glasgow to strengthen the areas of cooperation and the search for joint actions in future stages of the CIVIS project. Coming at the end of CIVIS 1, the project was a unique opportunity for WP3 to exploit the capabilities of the network to address global issues.

Four different axes were proposed for project implementation throughout activities planned in each territory:

- **DIAGNOSTIC.** Explore transversal topics of population displacement, access to social essential public services (education, health care...)
- **AWARENESS.** share stories and performing practices (through Art, History and Activism) to raise public awareness about migration and integration
- **ACTION:** document and disseminate a collective instrument to engage students into helping migrants
- **REPORTING:** this report forms part of the deliverables of WP3 available at CIVIS box

In addition to the local activities, the project included two coordinated initiatives that vertebrated the project:



1. [Training at Camp de Milles](#). On February 2022, the Open Lab (OL) of Aix-Marseille Université invited members of the CIVIS OL network to follow a training at the Camp des Milles for the citizen labelling of projects. The citizen labelling system is an extension of the UNESCO Chair "Citizenship Education, Human Sciences and Convergence of Memories" coordinated jointly by the Camp des Milles Foundation and the University of Aix-Marseille.

Participants got the opportunity to follow a two-days training which involved a guided tour of the former internment Camp which deported in 1942 more than 2,000 Jewish men, women and children to Auschwitz via the Drancy and Rivesaltes camps.

After the guided tour, the training involved various modules:

1. Representations and behaviours that can lead to the worst
2. Racism(s) and Antisemitism
3. Discrimination and the law
4. Citizens Labelling Scheme presentation

The training aims at giving to the CIVIS participants keys to interpret the learnings of the pasts in view of the current geopolitical situation. At the end of the training, each participant has received a training certificate that authorize him/her by the Foundation to act as a Referent for the national citizen labelling scheme. Each Open Lab has three years to support an Open Lab project's certification, based on the project's nature to preserve memory and fight totalitarianism, fanaticism and persecution in Europe.

For example, the Open Lab of Aix-Marseille Université is expected to lead the way with the follow-up on the certification of one of its projects "Lab'Citoyenneté Air Bel".

The initiative was part of the Awareness axis of the project.

2. [Dissemination Workshop in Glasgow and further steps](#). The project had a mid-term Open Workshop in Glasgow on July, which allowed the Open Labs present the dissemination materials prepared during the first months of the project and discuss about future collaborations in this area. Four Open Labs presented their activities physically, whereas four more connected virtually. The University of Glasgow and the University of Salzburg also presented several projects in this topic as part of their civic engagement internal strategies, which had large potential for the collaboration in broader synergetic projects.

The event also allowed us to highlight some of the local projects launched during the first phase of CIVIS to demonstrate the external audience what a EUNIV like CIVIS can do to respond to the territorial challenges. The Workshop was also dedicated to analyse the Open Lab outputs from a critical perspective. The conclusions are part of the general report on Open Labs.

III. LOCAL ACTIVITIES

[UAM](#) initiated the local activities in coherence with the model for the Open Lab establishment. UAM organized, through its Vice-rectorate for Social Commitment and Sustainability, a two-day event on March 29-30 entitled "University and Migration processes"([program](#)) in its own process of implementing the United Nations 2030 Agenda. The University invited the university community and



stakeholders to participate and openly discussed on the involvement of the University in the global scenario. The event included four roundtables on different topics addressing subjects such as

- present and future challenges for reception and integration of refugees in Spain
- role of the University in the migration processes from the training, research and institutional commitment perspective
- analysis of the refugee migration trajectories and exile
- keys for understanding the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine

Those roundtables counted with the participation of academics, students, NGOs, local administrations and civil representatives. The event was completed with a series of talks by experts inside and outside the University to deepen into the issues related to forced displacement. A publication aimed to make Arabic accessible to a broad public with no previous knowledge of this language, to ease the communication with population coming from Arabic speaking countries. This publication was printed and gifted to participants and UAM personnel that are involved in actions related with those populations.

The event allowed the generation of a video including testimonials from different stakeholders in the form of a video about the key role of the University to enable social mobility of this vulnerable groups and to enrich cooperation activities in refugee camps.

Concurrently with this event, the University opened a call for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Global Citizenship Program, in order to offer university students an opportunity to learn about experiences and social and environmental projects in disadvantaged areas of Benin and Colombia. The objectives of the program are the improvement of the well-being of the local communities with which UAM collaborates and contribute to equity, justice, the fulfilment of human rights, social cohesion and the fight against poverty and inequalities. Their experiences took place between June and September and complete the set of output materials with an on-site practice that helped to recognize the importance of shared responsibility with the causes that lead to migration flows and the international cooperation to sustain them.

Lastly, during May-September 2022, a workshop for migrant citizens that are part of UAM community (students, personnel, professors) was organized. The main purpose was to acknowledge the intangible heritage of the University in terms of cultural and ethnical diversity, and particularly, the growth of the University from the experience and learnings of those citizens involved in forced migration, who are more sensitive to our societal barriers. The workshop “Taller Jardín Refugio” took place on September 30th with a special focus on art and expression. UAM members that wanted to share their migratory experience were invited to this workshop, gathering a group of seven people. Outcomes of this workshop and further actions will be developed at UAM on the occasion of its Cooperation Office anniversary along 2022 and 2023, therefore the topic of this transnational project is having a continuity on the university.

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED: UNHCR, Spanish Commission for Supporting Refugees, RECOVER Foundation, Hospitals for Africa, National Pedagogical University, Solidarity Action and Cooperation Office



NKUA – The main activities and achievements carried out by NKUA are:

- Mapping the national legal framework concerning the entry criteria of immigrants-refugees-repatriated immigrants to the Greek Universities
- Mapping NKUA policies concerning the issue in the last 5-10 years
- Providing descriptive statistics of the student population with such background for the last 5 years
- Mapping the work conducted by the NKUA Teaching Center for the induction of non-Greek speaking students through learning the Greek language
- Formation of focus groups of students with migrant-refugee-repatriated background in order to raise the main issues concerning the academic life of this population
- Visiting an NGO working with migrant and refugee communities in Athens during May GCD events with our CIVIS partners
- Organizing an Open Day event with all stakeholders involved and giving the opportunity to different voices to be publicly heard

Action 1: Communication with stakeholders

In order to map the admission criteria concerning foreign students into the Greek academic system and to overview this population within NKUA, different stakeholders have been contacted, as follows

- (a) outside NKUA: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Culture
- (b) inside NKUA: Legal Department, Office of Academic Affairs, Greek Language Teaching Center, Secretariats of all Faculties

The information was not always clearly recorded due to various bureaucratic issues and the distinction between students with migrant or those with refugee background was not easily made. For this reason, the scope of our research has been broadened and thus, the presence of foreign, i.e. non-Greek, students within the Greek educational system has been explored in terms of the way they pursue their academic studies and guarantee their non-Greek origin into the Greek Universities. In this framework, other categories of student population have been investigated as well, such as international students moving to NKUA for their study abroad.

There was no consistent data collecting methodology throughout the University regarding non-Greek students and their development, thus only aggregate findings could be presented. The situation was even more complex regarding the graduate students, for whom response rate has been 55%, which is not ideal but it is still good enough. A complete image could be achieved if more time was allocated for data collecting; hence, it would have been more realistic if the project could have been unfolded in the span of one year.

Action 2: Experiences and life stories in the academic context

In order to explore the needs, experiences and life stories of NKUA students with non-Greek or inter-cultural origin, different types of actions have been undertaken, such as follows



- (1) formation of focus groups where participants discussed their life stories and experiences before and after graduating and explained the impact of their education in their future goals
- (2) meetings with experts, such as two Emerita Professors of the NKUA, studying diachronically the Greek educational system and the opportunities it may offer to non-Greek origin students to be integrated within different levels of education.
- (3) visiting the NGO “Melissa” as an exemplar of support and empowerment offered to refugee women who flee from war-ridden territories in search of better conditions of life, academic development included. The visit was included in the Global Civis Days Programme in Athens and many colleagues of other CIVIS alliance Universities participated.

Action 3: Dissemination of results

(1) Open Day event:

It was conceived as an one-day multi-vocal event with discussion panels and a mix of participants (focus group representatives, as well as NKUA scholars, who have been working with migrant-refugee populations during the last decade). The date chosen coincided with the June solstice (21st June) referred also as the International Day of Music and met the expectations of the organising committee (a collaboration of WP3 Open Labs and WP3 TF:Civic Engagement led by Marlen Mouliou (OL), Department of History and Archaeology, Maria Iakovou (OL) , Department of Greek Philology and Philia Issari (CE), Department of Psychology) for an Open Day event celebrating the presence of students with a migrant/refugee or inter-cultural background and the “foreigner”, the non-Greek members of a typical Greek University, such as the NKUA. The event as a whole corresponded to the main objective of the NKUA project, which is to develop an overview and understanding of the population with migrant and refugee background participating in the academic life of the NKUA not only as students, but also as academics whose the migratory experiences may give us insights into typical life stories inside and outside Universities. Within this framework, the Open Day event was evolved into an Open Workshop aiming at exploring the presence and experiences of students, alumni and academic staff with an immigrant or intercultural background, as they may be drawn from the pool of students, alumni and staff of the School of Philosophy. The event recalled not only students’ experiences but also gave the floor to their families for different emotionally affected interventions. The Open Day event consisted of

- (a) 2 keynote speakers discussing the presence of the “foreigner” within the Greek educational system and the contribution of the NKUA in this context
- (b) 2 round tables consisting of 10 and 5 participant groups respectively, where students, alumni and graduates of the NKUA shared their educational experiences within and outside the NKUA in terms of their non-Greek origin
- (c) 1 NKUA professor who is also the writer of a migratory novel was the representative of migration experiences from the other side, as she is an academic born abroad and returned to Greece for work in the University
- (d) 15 members of the student presenters’ families who participated in the whole event and gave their own perspective in relation to their non-Greek origin



(e) 30 auditors who were members of the academic community with specific interest in issues concerning the Intercultural Education and the Migration

(2) Booklet with all data drawn from different research levels (Open Day workshop, focus groups, big data analysis) about the different nuances of “foreigner” within the NKUA.

NKUA CIVIS NEWS: https://hub.uoa.gr/?post_types=&s=transnational

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Culture, Legal Department, Office of Academic Affairs, Greek Language Teaching Center, Secretariats of all Faculties, “Melissa” NGO

UB – The project developed around the following three main objectives:

1. Identifying, contacting and scheduling meetings with relevant actors that have worked or supported migrants and refugees.

To achieve this objective, we met with NGO representatives to discuss the gaps and hindrances in the legislative procedures for migrants and refugees trying to access essential public services such as health care and education and their overall experience as active actors in this field. Some of these meetings took place at a later date than initially planned because as we used the snowball techniques to find more active NGOs based on our previous meetings, we ended up identifying more and more entities active in this field. Also, some of the planned meetings happened at a later date than previously planned and agreed upon because the refugee crisis caused by the conflict in Ukraine has spread many of the NGOs resources very thin, so they postponed our interviews according to their schedule.

2. Obtaining the perspective of the target group from different locations of the country on their experiences in accessing education and health care services in Romania

To achieve this objective, we applied interview guides in Bucharest and travelled to three different locations that are known as destination centres for refugees of the country: Timișoara in Timiș County, Galați in Galați County and three localities in Suceava County. This stage also took longer than initially planned because we wanted to ensure we obtained as much information as possible and identified all facades of the barriers migrants and refugees face in accessing Romania's health care and education systems. As a result, we succeeded in talking to 129 individual asylum seekers and people with refugee backgrounds, one of whom was also invited to our one-day event.

3. Disseminating the results

To achieve this objective, we:

- organised a one-day event in which NGOs representatives, people with migrant or refugee backgrounds, and current students will meet and discuss this topic;
- produced a summary document with our findings with involved previous actions such as: creating a database of all the legislative measures dealing with the rights and obligations of migrants and refugees coming to Romania; creating a statistical database regarding the migrants and refugees coming to Romania (demographic profile, country of origin); Creating



a graphic representation of the migrants and refugees coming to Romania; creating cartographical material of the supporting infrastructure existing in Romania in helping migrants and refugees,

- published a study that would reflect the experience of migrants and refugees in Romania in a leading international journal.

Some delays were incurred in this stage, primarily as a result of the previous delays but also because we ensured that as many students as possible would attend the one-day event, so we organised it during a time-frame in which they would be involved in academia-related activities.

Information about the event prior to and after its organisation were posted both on the Facebook page of the Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest:

<https://www.facebook.com/FacultateadeGeografieUB>

https://geo.unibuc.ro/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/civis_open_labs_Invitatie-Transnational-Project-on-Migration-and-C_220904_112508.pdf

<https://unibuc.ro/lansarea-rezultatelor-unui-studiu-dezvoltat-in-cadrul-civis-despre-accesul-migrantilor-la-servicii-de-sanatate-si-educatie-in-romania-la-ub/>

The event was also mentioned on the Facebook page of The Romanian National Council for Refugees: <https://www.facebook.com/cnrr.ro>

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED: AIDRom (Ecumenical Association of Churches in Romania), IOM (International Organization for Migration), The Romanian National Council for Refugees, Semiluna Islamic Cultural Center Foundation in Bucharest, Faculty of Geography.

AMU – In addition to the organization of the training at Camp des Milles, Aix-Marseille University organized the Y CIVIC Seminar that took place in Marseille as part of the Y CIVIC Project, a broader initiative supported by the Europe for Citizens' programme and based on a partnership between organisations from 5 countries (Belgium, France, Italy, Poland, Romania). The goal is to bring together youngsters in European seminars on various topics such as environment (Belgium October 2021), legality and democracy (Palermo, February 2022), youth in rural areas (Poznan, spring 2022), civic engagement (Marseille, June 2022) and fake news (Romania, summer2022).

The Y Civic seminar organized in Marseille is coordinated by the association Citizens Campus, associated partner of CIVIS in the CIVIS2 application and project leader of "Vénères & Solidaires", a project funded by the Open Lab CIVIS AMU.

From 10-11th June, 100 young Europeans, including 16 CIVIS students came to Marseille to reflect and participate on youth engagement around two modules:

(1) Collective volunteering with local associations which:

- create links between different generations
- preserve our environment
- challenge the isolation of the homeless
- enable inclusion through sports activities



(2) Training on Collective intelligence methods to respond to a problem with a European dimension:

- How to make European mobility more accessible to all young people?
- Citizen's commitment vs political disaffiliation
- How to mobilize youth to vote during the 2024 European elections?
- If you should organize tomorrow a year of activities celebrating Marseille, the European capital of the sea, which activities would you choose?

After having this first experience of CIVIS student mobility in a non-formal education project, the seminar proves to be relevant to the transnational initiative topic, and contribute to the added value of the Open Labs in the civic engagement & challenge-based education strategy of CIVIS. Participating CIVIS students, participating European youngsters and Citizens Campus were genially happy about this opportunity and would like to do it again. We could broader the CIVIS impact and exploit the potential of our network and ambition towards a partnership with the African-Mediterranean region in a Mediterranean forum of Youth Engagement.

Furthermore, we are studying the possibility of creating a festival on civic engagement within CIVIS which would take place every two years and which could be held in one of the territories of the alliance. AMU, in association with Citizens Campus is studying, with the other CIVIS Open Labs the feasibility of a 1st edition in June 2024.

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED: Camp des Milles Foundation, Citizens Campus

SUR - Sapienza has contributed to the transnational call by giving value to the role of migrants and refugees/asylum seekers within the artistic and cultural context. The inner questions beyond their proposal could be summarised as follows: how much our European culture is influenced and cross-fertilised by integration? How much society can benefit and enrich from this mutual influence?

There are a lot of activities in Sapienza¹ and in other universities aimed at supporting migrants in their daily life, but less effort seems to be allocated in fostering their integration through artistic expressions deriving from their own cultural background. Indeed, cultural institutions such as universities should be main actors in promoting novel forms of expressions and integration in favour of real open societies.

As a consequence, Sapienza organised an event to showcase, support and award artistic and cultural products and performances with and for migrants and refugees, not only giving value to already existing formats and experiences on the territory, but also creating new ones and new forms of expressions starting from theatre.

¹ Among Sapienza main activities, see for instance:

- Global Humanities degree course: <https://corsidilaurea.uniroma1.it/en/corso/2020/30788/home>
- Uni(di)versity project: <http://www.university.eu/>
- Tandem project: <https://iomintandem.com/project/italy/>
- PROTECT project: <https://www.famiprotect.it/>



The project deals with the organisation of the first Sapienza Festival on Migrations Theatre, that lasted three days and allowed - after a public national call - the most interesting performances to present their work in a Sapienza prestigious venue: New Ateneo Theater.

- (1) The call was launched by June 2022 to select the five best expressions of inclusive theater, produced by companies with a high number of migrants and with texts, preferably, from the countries of origin. The applying companies provided information such as the history of the company itself, the synopsis of their show and especially a short video / demo / extract (about 5 min);
- (2) A commission appointed by Sapienza Rector selected, from the proposals received, the 5 best ones that will receive a cash prize. These 5 companies had (in July) the possibility of representing the awarded shows in the Ateneo Theater;
- (3) The video material collected for the purposes of the evaluation circulated within cycles of projections simultaneously in streaming on a YouTube channel, in the universities of the CIVIS network in order to enhance the European visibility of the initiative.

These initiatives was organised in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, both at bottom-up and institutional level.

To share and spread our work and message with the other Universities of the network, we prepared the short video 12Performance4Migration that collect the clip of the 12 companies that joined our initiative. It has been shared during the Glasgow meeting and in Civis universities

Video:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BmLhy-Pr21ntc1Aju8rdnjyRmyWPNic1/view?usp=sharing>

- the streaming festival held on July 13, 14 and 15 from 4 p.m. (CEST) can be watched through the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVFzzCiJdyini1u6qXJctsw?reload=9&app=desktop&cbrd=1>

Other public links

<https://www.uniroma1.it/it/notizia/festival-teatrale-teatro-delle-migrazioni>

<https://civis.eu/en/events/migration-theatre-festival>

ULB - The general approach was to share the experience of a legal clinic created in the territory of Brussels by students engaged in the Master in Law called Law Students With Refugees (LSWR), as a good practice in terms of response to the migration issue (<https://www.facebook.com/ULBLSWR/>)

The recent images of the fate of refugees from war zones arriving at the gates of Europe have made the rounds on the web and have greatly moved us. We are experiencing the biggest refugee crisis since the Second World War. Everywhere, solidarity and citizen initiatives are being created to help migrants.



Often tired of their long journey and in a more than precarious and uncertain situation, asylum seekers are unfortunately not at the end of their journey within our borders. Indeed, they still have to face the legal labyrinth in Belgium. Often alone and without resources, this is an obstacle course. One more ordeal... This is why LSWR was created in order to inform asylum seekers about the administrative and legal path that awaits them.

CIVIS values exhibited by LSWR

- territorial impact
- Civic Engagement / Service Learning
- inter/transdisciplinarity

Perspectives of the LSWR model for the CIVIS alliance

- legal clinic model for each territory
- European legal clinic = share cases, bring out transversal and systemic issues (and potentially research and policy making actions on a larger scale)

Inside this project, ULB Open Lab has shared the LSWR model with the CIVIS network through:

- production of a 3-4 minute video explaining the role of LSWR (+ English subtitles)
production by professional teams (filmed interviews + editing + subtitles)
- production of a summary document to describe the model and make its export possible:
 - mission
 - institutional framework
 - background
 - working methodology (with refugees, with lawyers, interdisciplinarity, ...)
 - valorisation in the curriculum
 - achievements/case studies
 - testimonies...
- exploration of one of the chosen themes with LSWR during a round table/workshop with the actors of the territory concerned (refugees, associations, admin...)

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED: Law Students With Refugees

SU – At Stockholm University, we decided to focus on the following challenge: How can we better match the skills of students having a background as migrants or refugees, with higher education and jobs? Together with our partners at Openlab Stockholm, we organized a workshop in the format of a World Café, inviting stakeholders from various parts of society: universities and student unions, local authorities and NGO:s. We ran the workshop at Openlab on the Royal Institute of Technology Campus on May 10th 2022 with 16 participants and 4 facilitators; 3 by the tables and one for the overall agenda.

The World Café format invites people to meet and discuss a relevant topic in an informal and relaxed setting which encourages everyone to share knowledge and opinions. To enable a dynamic conversation, we had prepared the space and the agenda to facilitate conversations about the topic seen from three different perspectives: Academia, Local authorities and Industry. Together, participants surfaced both challenges and best practices from each of their organizations and shared



knowledge to build awareness and strengthen chances of future collaboration. Many participants expressed gratitude and fulfillment after the meeting and left with remarks of this workshop as one of the best they had ever participated in. The meeting did not only summarize relevant challenges and best practices relevant to these professionals and participating organizations, but created a well-needed forum for professionals in the same field of work, and who otherwise do not ever meet in person, to meet and connect around the issues that they face every day on their job or in their life or in society in general. Furthermore, the ongoing war in Ukraine highlighted the need even more.

As for ourselves, this workshop highlighted our nation's difficult processes with handling validation documents for students coming to Sweden from other parts of the world; a challenge and a burden that mainly falls on the universities, but more so creates a high threshold for foreign students to access higher education in Sweden. Overall, many examples of challenges and best practices were gathered. This is a summary of the results:

I. ACADEMIA

Challenges

- Validation documents
- Time
- Money

Best Practice

The Short Cut - A short course to support foreign academics to reach a job [Korta vägen](#)

ULV - Supplementary Education for Migrant Teachers and Preschool Teachers [ULV Stockholm University](#)

SUHF's report on migration - Report on migration from The Association of Swedish Higher Education Institutions [SUHF's report on migrants 2020](#)

II. LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Challenges

- Unawareness of available support
- Unclear responsibilities
- Diverse views on newcomers as resource or problem

Best Practice

Information Sweden - Information to asylum-seekers in different languages [Information Sverige](#)

Welcome House - Support for newly-arrived in one place in Stockholm [Welcome House](#)

Road to a teaching job - City of Stockholm's support for foreign teachers [Road to a teaching job](#)

III. INDUSTRY

Challenges

- Time
- Money
- Prejudice



Best Practice

Integrationspakten Stockholm City - 350 companies collaborating for integration

[Integrationspakten](#)

Language-developing jobs - Support to employers to offer language-developing jobs

[Språkutvecklande arbete](#)

Swedbank "Finally a job" - Recruiting foreign academics [Äntligen jobb](#)

UT - The war in Ukraine caused an increase in numbers of refugees in the Tübingen region. Based on experiences from the period 2016 – 2018, the University of Tübingen is playing a key role in establishing a wide range of supporting activities for refugees from Ukraine.² As an educational institution of education and research, many of these measures are aimed at students and academics. But the assistance of the University of Tübingen also addresses non-university actors from the wider local society.

The Open Lab Tübingen focuses in this sub-project on the challenge to inform the public, civil society and public institutions about these supporting measures at UT and to contribute to wider measures. In addition, UT aimed to connect key stakeholders to leverage the supporting system for migrants and refugees on a regional level. UT did this through a three folded approach.

(1) Documentation and dissemination of the supporting activities of the UT for refugees

We produced a video, presenting the activities undertaken by the university to support migrants and refugees. The video focused not only on new established measures concentrating on (academic) refugees from Ukraine, but it also highlighted regular activities aiming to strengthen the regional supporting network for refugees and migrants.

The video was launched in late September 2022. The original plan to launch the video in June 2022 needed to be adjusted due to time constraints of major stakeholders.

(2) Explain the higher education landscape in the state of Baden-Württemberg to foster academic education and social interaction

A considerable proportion of refugees has the qualification to enrol in higher education or to continue a course of study they had started in their home country. As the German higher education landscape is extremely diverse it can be challenging to find the desired academic education.

The Open Lab Tübingen produced videos assisting incoming migrants and refugees to navigate through the educational landscape, to find a suitable course of studies, to apply at state universities and in everyday questions concerning student life in Germany.

(a) Die Hochschullandschaft in Baden-Württemberg / The higher education landscape in Baden-Württemberg

(b) Bewerbung für ein Studium in Baden-Württemberg / Application for studies in Baden-Württemberg

² Find more information on the support for students and researchers from Ukraine at:

[Solidarity with Ukraine | University of Tübingen \(uni-tuebingen.de\)](#)



(c) Alltagsfragen rund ums Studium / Everyday questions about student life

As a reaction to the current Russian attack on Ukraine, the videos were produced in Ukrainian language. Subsequently, English versions of the videos are created.

This project is valuable for refugees and migrants in the whole state and beyond and helped to faster and better integrate into the local (academic) communities.

(3) Public event to publicly discuss migration related topics

On the 21st of July 2022 the CIVIS Open Lab Tübingen hosted a panel discussion titled “War. Flight. Migration - Ukrainian experiences and perspectives”.³

The aim of the discussion was not to talk about the immigrants from Ukraine. Rather, they themselves were able to speak about their experiences and expectations, their hopes, and disappointments. The topic of the discussion also addressed the German Willkommenskultur (culture of welcome).

The three Ukrainian speakers who shared their experiences, views and perspectives were:

Olena Malynovska, an internationally renowned migration researcher who also works in the field of policy consulting at the Institute for Strategic Studies in Kiev. She is currently a visiting researcher in Tübingen at the Collaborative Research Centre 923 "Threatened Order".

Maria Ivanytska is Professor of German Studies and Translation at Taras Shevchenko University Kyiv. She is currently a visiting scholar at the Slavic Department of the University of Tübingen. Her research focuses on Ukrainian-German literary and cultural relations.

Maria Shuhajlo is a student of German and Translation Studies and currently holds a scholarship at the University of Tübingen.

The panel discussion was moderated by Shamma Shahadat, Professor of Slavic Literature and Cultural Studies, and Klaus Gestwa, Director of the Institute for Eastern European History and Regional Studies.

The audience was welcomed by Monique Scheer, Professor for Historical and Cultural Anthropology and currently Vice-President of International Affairs and Diversity, who also joined the discussion.

By displaying the array of current supporting activities by the UT (1), providing information about the higher-education landscape directed especially to scholars/students with migration background (2) and hosting the panel discussion “War. Flight. Migration - Ukrainian experiences and perspectives” (3), the Open Lab Tübingen raised awareness for migration related support provided by the university and the current situation of migrants from Ukraine, fostered multi stakeholder interaction and contribute to enhance the regional refugee and migration support system as a whole.

UoG - The City of Glasgow is host to the largest population of refugees and asylum seekers under the dispersal policy, as well as having a history of hosting large communities of migrants. Glasgow also

³ German title: Krieg. Flucht. Migration - Ukrainische Erfahrungen und Perspektiven.



has a large number of organisations working with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in a variety of ways, and it is clear that Scotland as a whole provides a distinctive context within the U.K. as far as migration, refugee and asylum issues are concerned. The University of Glasgow's academic community has a wide range of expertise in relation to these areas, which is reflected in its Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network (GRAMNet).

During the workshop that took place in 12-23 July, UoG welcome the Open Lab coordinators and collaborators to the recently inaugurated Advanced Research Center and organized open sessions to showcase the achievements of the transnational project and the role of HEIs in supporting migrants and refugee communities. The UoG also shared the related initiatives in Glasgow and Scotland developed at the University. Through the collaboration of UofGEngage Forum they also organized a session entitled 'Critically reflecting on meaningful civic engagement locally and globally' to work and debate on the perception of the attendees about civic engagement and the related terms involved in the development of this university identity.

As part of the ARCAdia Festival hosted in 16-30 September, a special event was organized on September 29th around the role of Open Labs in Civis entitled "Global Challenges, Local Solutions - a Celebration of Community Open Labs". The event, supported and hosted by the CIVIS European Universities Alliance, the Glasgow Centre for Population Health (GCPH) and the University of Glasgow, focused on how community groups are taking charge of their own ideas and projects around sustainability. We heard from Glasgow-based and European projects, all sharing experiences of co-creating solutions for our biggest societal challenges, tackling big topics at a local level.

IV. FINAL ANALYSIS

The project gathered a large number of activities around a common challenge creating a new scenario for the development of further actions. The time of project execution was too short to imbricate the activities more in the different territories. However, it was a good experience to find associations that could settle down during the next phase of Civis. In fact, several ideas have emerged during these months that could find continuity with a moderate effort in the future. The Glasgow workshop gave us the opportunity to build relationships and learn from the experience of others, paving the way for future collaboration.

A large number of stakeholders participated and contributed to the project across the different territories satisfying the mission of the Open Labs. The role of NGOs was particularly fruitful in bridging the CIVIS initiative with the targeted groups. The internal University units involved in supporting the immigrant and refugee communities in our Institutions were also key elements to set up many of the activities in such a short time.

According to the activities developed the project might be classified inside the Society, Culture, Heritage CIVIS challenge and its Hub, but it may have connections with other Hubs due to the transversal nature of the objectives and areas of action.

LOCAL PROJECT COORDINATORS



CIVIS PARTNER	PEOPLE INVOLVED
UAM	Silvia Arias, silvia.arias@uam.es
UB	Prof. PhD Liliana Dumitrache, liliana.dumitrache@unibuc.ro Dr. Alina Mareci alina.mareci@unibuc.ro
AMU	Valérie Caraguel, valerie.caraguel@univ-amu.fr
SU	Ivar Björkman, ivar.bjorkman@openlab.se (OL Manager) Members of Civis Task Force on Civic Engagement: Anna Carlstedt (Programme Director) anna.carlstedt@su.se Karin Grelz (Engagement and Collaboration Officer) karin.grelz@su.se
ULB	Etienne Toffin (OL Manager) Etienne.Toffin@ulb.be Sophie Roizard (ULB Engagée) Sophie.Roizard@ulb.be
NKUA	Prof. Marlen Mouliou mmouliou@arch.uoa.gr Prof. Maria Iakovou mariak@phli.uoa.gr Prof. Philia Issari issariph@psych.uoa.gr
SUR	Prof. Daniela de Leo - daniela.deleo@uniroma1.it Andrea Riccio - andrea.riccio@uniroma1.it Giulia Antinucci - giulia.antinucci@uniroma1.it
UT	Jan Middendorf (OL Coordinator) jan.middendorf@uni-tuebingen.de Dr. Volker Balli (Head of CIVIS Office) volker.balli@uni-tuebingen.de
UoG	Dr Gareth Mulvey – Gareth.Mulvey@glasgow.ac.uk CIVIS PM - civis@glasgow.ac.uk

