# NATIONAL INTEGRATION CONFERENCE

#### **AGENDA**

08:30 AM Event Registration

09:00 AM Welcome Address

Brian Killoran, CEO, Immigrant Council of Ireland

09:10 AM Keynote Address

Dr Ebun Joseph, Special Rapporteur on Racial Equality and Racism in

Ireland

09:30 AM Panel: International Perspectives on Migrant Integration

Moderator: Brian Killoran, Immigrant Council of Ireland Speaker: Meghan Benton, Migration Policy Institute

Marton Bisztrai, Hungarian Refugee Support Worker

Ayse Melis Ari-Gurhanli, Finland

Ina Schoeneberg, Federal Ministry of the Interior &

Community, Germany

11:00 AM Break

11:30AM Breakout Sessions 1-4

See Next page for Breakout Session descriptions

12:45PM Lunch

1:45 PM Breakout Sessions 5-8

See Next page for Breakout Session descriptions

3:00 PM Break

3:15 PM Panel: Migrant Integration in Ireland

Moderator: Emma Lane Spollen, Ukraine Civil Society Forum

Speaker: Brian Killoran, Immigrant Council of Ireland

Balume Dube, Donegal Intercultural Platform

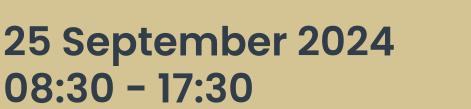
Yvonne O'Brien, Louth County Council

David Delaney, Dept of Children, Equality, Disability,

Integration & Youth Esther Osayimwen

4:45 PM Recognition Awards
5:30 PM Conference Close







#### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1-4**

#### 11:30-12:45 Migrants Access to Education

Ballroom

#### Immigrant Council of Ireland

Education is recognised as an important aspect of integration and access to third level education is well understood as a tool to facilitate social mobility and equality of opportunity. However some groups of migrants face barriers in accessing education and in progressing to third level education as a direct result of the type of residence permission they hold. Of particular concern to the Immigrant Council is that certain groups of migrants cannot access SUSI supports. This session will bring together experts in education, migrant leaders working to support access to education and people with lived experience of the barriers faced by migrants to discuss these issues and propose solutions to the problems identified.

Moderator: Mary Henderson, Solicitor, Immigrant Council of Ireland

Speaker: Donnah Vuma, Doras

Siobhan O'Reilly, Children's Rights Alliance

Emer Nowlan, Educate Together

Abdulai Mansaray

## 11:30-12:45 Building a multipolar society through sustainable community development

Trinity
Suite 1

#### 4C's - Cavan Cross Cultural Community

4C is a a coalition of different organisations or communities working on a common goal or cause while maintaining individual identities. These groups unite to combine resources, expertise and efforts to achieve a shared objective, often in areas such as advocacy, public health, social change or community development. This session will look at the model that is being used by 4C.

Speaker: Marisa Goldstone, 4C

Elizabeth Wilson Higgins, Cavan Women Network Zeinab El Mustafa, Cavan Volunteer Centre Teresa Walsh, Fair Green Community Garden Zaurbek Musaev, Cavan Islamic Community

#### 11:30-12:45 Building a response to Hate and Division

Trinity
Suite 2

#### Hope and Courage Collective

The Hope and Courage Collective will facilitate an interactive workshop on understanding hate and division and how organisations, communities and groups can develop inclusive narratives to persuade people away from disinformation and hate.

Speaker: Niamh McDonald, Director of Community Engagement and

Advocacy, Hope and Courage Collective

#### 11:30-12:45 Manifesting Migrant Voices in Elections

Swift Room

#### Immigrant Council of Ireland

\*This Breakout Session is only for people of a migrant background\* Political parties before a General Election publish their election manifestos containing the set of policies that the party wishes to implement if elected to govern. During this workshop participants will create a migrant-led election manifesto for the upcoming Irish General Elections to represent migrant voters' needs in policymaking.

Speaker: Teresa Buczkowska, Political Participation Coordinator, Immigrant

Council of Ireland

#### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS 5-8**

## 13:45-15:00 The challenging environment for International Protection Applicants

Ballroom

Movement of Asylum Seekers in Ireland (MASI)

In the past year we have seen a rise in anti migrants groups in Ireland of which the far right movement has been targeting the most vulnerable groups in this country, protesting almost daily in front of the direct protection centres. This has caused fear and despair on applicants as these protests become ugly and violent at times. We will also touch on the suggestions we think needed for the future, and highlight the role of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in this country.

Speaker: Lucky Khambule, MASI Coordinator

Alice Mhlope

#### 13:45-15:00 Resistance on Integration in the Host Community

Trinity
Suite 1

#### Ukrainian Action in Ireland

A thought-provoking conversation on how to tackle resistance and build resilience in host communities. We'll explore how applying insights from change management can facilitate successful integration.

Speaker: Olena Redrugina, Co-Founder, Ukrainian Action in Ireland

### 13:45-15:00 Promoting Social Inclusion and Community Engagement for Muslim Migrant Women

Trinity
Suite 2

#### Muslim Sisters of Eire

This session will explore the unique challenges and opportunities faced by Muslim migrant women in their efforts to integrate into their new communities. By focusing on social inclusion and community engagement, the session aims to highlight effective strategies and initiatives that foster inclusive neighborhoods and support Muslim women in navigating everyday challenges. Participants will examine case studies of successful community integration programs, discuss ways to overcome language barriers, and address issues such as housing, transportation, and access to public services. The session will also delve into the importance of cultural and religious preservation, the role of education and lifelong learning, and the empowerment of Muslim women through civic engagement and leadership.

Speaker: Lorraine O'Connor, Founder, Muslim Sisters of Eire

Aisha Ali, Vice-Chair, Muslim Sisters of Eire Jameela Abougnah, Muslim Sisters of Eire

Alkawthar Youcef, Vice-Chair, Muslim Girls of Eire Fatima Youcef, Committee Member, Muslim Girls of Eire

## 13:45-15:00 Eastern European migrants' perspective on migration and integration 20 years since the EU enlargement

Swift Room

#### Forum Polonia

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the EU enlargement which opened the route for Eastern European migration to Ireland. Collectively Eastern Europeans are the largest migrant group in Ireland. The panel discussion will bring Eastern European migrants' perspectives on their experiences of migration and integration in Ireland.