

Coordinating Institution:

The Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS) is a non-profit organization, affiliated to the University of Nicosia. The Institute aims to act as main contributor to the intellectual, political, and socio-political life of the region as this relates to issues of gender and to do so using a multidisciplinary approach and in collaboration with other institutions. The Institute recognizes the multilayered levels of discrimination against women and accepts that this discrimination takes different forms. It is committed to the elimination of this discrimination using a combination of research, advocacy and lobbying, as well as training, conferences, and other activities.

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With the support of:

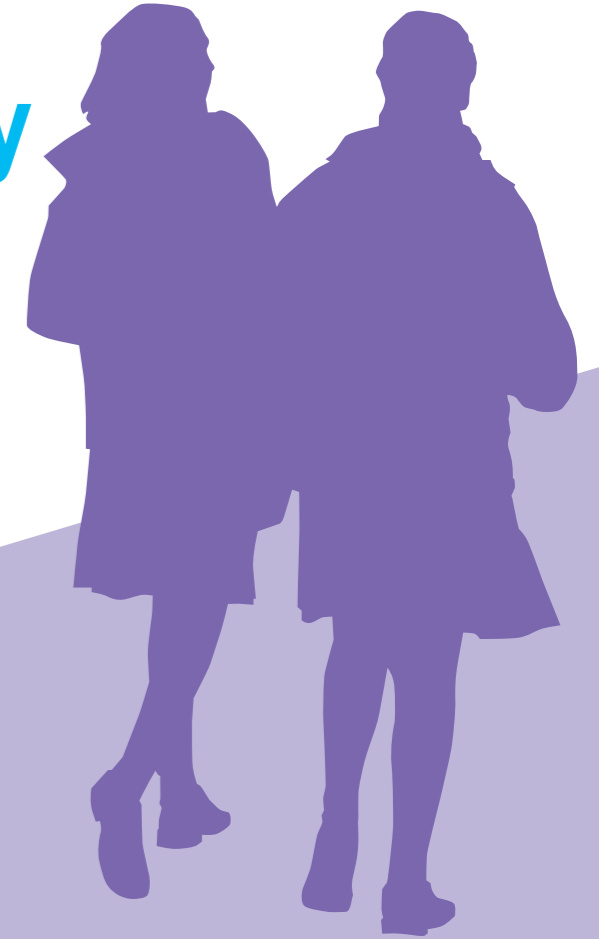


European Fund for the
Integration of Third Country Nationals
of the European Commission



Young Migrant Women in Secondary Education

Promoting integration and mutual understanding through dialogue and exchange



Policies developed for the integration of migrant children in schools usually recognize the fluid and multiple aspects of cultural and language identities but less so the dynamic character of gender in relation to the transnational experience of migrants. Having abandoned past assimilation approaches, schools in many European countries now try to build integration policies and develop practices on the basis of respect for cultural diversity. However, gender mainstreaming is absent from such practices, strategies and policies.

To address these issues, the Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS) in Nicosia, Cyprus is coordinating a transnational project entitled "Young Migrant Women in Secondary Education – Promoting integration and mutual understanding through dialogue and exchange" funded under the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals of the European Commission. Partners to the project, which has a duration of 18 months, include the Centre of Research in Theories and Practices that Overcome Inequalities (CREA) at the University of Barcelona (Spain), the Centre for Rights, Equalities and Social Justice (CRESJ) at the Institute of Education, University of London (UK), the Department of Sociology at Panteion University (Greece), and the Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Educational Research (EMCER) at the University of Malta (Malta).

AIMS OF THE PROJECT

- To explore how the intersection of gender and ethnic stereotyping produces forms of exclusion and marginalization as experienced by young migrant women in the context of secondary education
- To identify the gaps between mainstream integration measures and young migrant women's needs using a critical gender perspective
- To develop policy recommendations aimed at improving the quality of existing structures and services in the educational context to reflect the different needs of young migrant women

ACTIVITIES

- A comparative literature review to map existing integration policies in the education system
- The undertaking of research in each participating member state in order to examine if current policies in the secondary education context address and reflect the needs and experiences of young migrant women and take into account factors such as diverse religious background, migration paths and status, and language needs
- The organization of discussion groups with relevant stakeholders in the five countries with the aim to provide further insight, analysis

and knowledge of the needs and experiences of young migrant women in secondary education

- The development of policy recommendations on the implementation of more flexible and focused integration measures that address the specific needs of young migrant women in the secondary education
- The organization of press conferences in all partner countries to present and disseminate the research findings
- The development of transnational cooperation networks through the organization of a workshop in Cyprus

••• The implementation of an awareness campaign through the publication of information leaflets as well as a resource book which will incorporate the results of the project activities as well as examples of best practice and recommendations for policy change

- A final conference involving key stakeholders and experts from across Europe to address the development of an integration model responsive to the particular needs of young migrant women in secondary education

Partner Organizations:

Centre of Research in Theories and Practices that Overcome Inequalities (CREA) – University of Barcelona (Spain): The Centre of Research in Theories and Practices that Overcome Inequalities- CREA- is a highly interdisciplinary centre, with long experience in RTD projects at a national and a European level. Some of CREA's most significant lines of research are gender inequalities, educational success, and cultural groups. CREA is currently coordinating the INCLUD-ED Integrated Project (6th FP, 2006 – 2011) which is the most important RTD project on schooling in Europe. The SAFO CREA's Women's Group has been working on research projects since 1999, mainly related to "other women", women and interculturalism, and gender violence. It has been involved in several scientific conferences and publications with feminist authors, and it regularly collaborates with other women's groups and institutions linked to gender issues.

For more information please refer to www.pcb.ub.es/crea

Centre for Rights, Equalities and Social Justice (CRESJ) – Institute of Education, University of London (UK): The Institute of Education is the best known specialist university centre for education in the UK, and our graduates - now successful teachers and lecturers - are especially valued by head teachers and principals throughout the UK and beyond. It is the only college of the University of London dedicated entirely to education and

related areas of social science. With over 6,000 students and 800 staff, we are active in every continent, and our scholars are leading world figures in their fields. Our teaching and research have had a major impact on education in many countries. The Centre for Rights, Equalities and Social Justice (CRESJ), Institute of Education University of London is an international centre for excellence, leading research on social justice and equity in education. Promoting an inclusive approach to educational research, we produce world class research on race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability in education.

For more information please visit the centre's website at www.ioe.ac.uk/research/169.html

Department of Sociology – Panteion University, Athens (Greece): The Department of Sociology at Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences is the first Sociology department created in Greece. Founded in 1984, members of the department pursue a dynamic research agenda and teach undergraduate and graduate students of Panteion. Faculty, associates, and doctoral students of the department conduct research on a range of social issues, as well as issues relating to the theory and methods of sociology as a discipline. The department offers courses organized around four areas of specialization: Contemporary Greek Society, Social Morphology, Criminology, and General Sociology. Over 1300 undergraduate students, 60 graduate students and about 350 doctoral

candidates are pursuing their studies at the department. The university itself was founded in 1934. Panteion is home to 10 academic departments and 18 research centres.

For more information please refer to: www.panteion.gr/index.php/sociology-mainmenu

Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Educational Research (EMCER) – University of Malta (Malta): The Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Educational Research is an autonomous Centre at the University of Malta engaged in the interdisciplinary study of Mediterranean and European issues specifically focusing on educational challenges in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The founder of the centre, Professor Ronald Sultana, directs the centre in association with a loose network of scholars who conduct, publish and disseminate comparative and analytic research on educational systems and issues. The Centre publishes the biannual refereed international journal, Mediterranean Journal of Educational Studies, coordinates the Mediterranean Education Research Network and offers a Masters in Comparative Euro-Mediterranean Education Studies.

For more information please refer to www.um.edu.mt/emcer/about.