

REACT

***Reactivating European citizenship: a network
of inclusive towns***

3^o Transnational Meeting

Breznicki Hum – Gornja Rijeka (Croatia)

24 - 25 October 2017

**Equity and access to public services:
how does immigration affect it locally?**

Belgium

Presentation of Gabriele Sospiro - ECEPAA

Europe for Citizens - Programme Guide 2014-2020

BEST PRACTICES IN BELGIUM

1. The World Mayor 2016
2. **UNIA**: For equality, against discrimination
3. **Globe Aroma**: La Maison des Artes Ouverte

The World Mayor 2016

The **2016 World Mayor Project** honors mayors and their communities that have welcomed refugees and immigrants and offered them safety, shelter and support



Bart Somers

Mayor of Mechelen, Belgium



With more than 128 different nationalities, Mechelen is one of the most diverse cities in Europe but is also a city where first and foremost everyone is a citizen of Mechelen

“What counts is not your origin but your future”



For Equality!! Against discrimination!!

- > **Racism**
- > Religious beliefs
- > Disability
- > Age
- > Sexual orientation

Ground of
discrimination

T
A
R
G
E
T

- ☐ ***Society*** as a whole, and particularly government authorities, public institutions and companies;
- ☐ Anyone in Belgium who has been ***witness*** or the ***target of discrimination***.

About Unia

Independent public institution with interfederal competence that combats discrimination and promotes equal opportunities.

Action and Search

- ☐ Awareness & Prevention
- ☐ Jurisprudence
- ☐ Legislation & Recommendation
- ☐ Publications & Statistics



(2) For Equality, against discrimination

Partners

Partnership agreement with the federal government, the regions and communities (June 2013):



Areas of Action

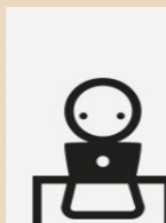
Housing

Good & Service



Employment

Education





RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

In the last year, how many people did experience racial/ethnic or religious discrimination?



ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

Score:



BELGIUM
VS.
MIPEX 38

Rank: 9 of 38

Potential Beneficiaries

Non-EU experiencing discrimination 8%

7.7% of people in BE felt they had been discriminated or harassed for their **ethnic origin** (5%) and/or **religion** (3.6%)

A club refuses entry to young Roma people; An applicant not chosen by a company because not European; a Moroccan woman is harassed because of her headscarf; A rental advertisement states "no blacks".

Source: [MIPEX](#)

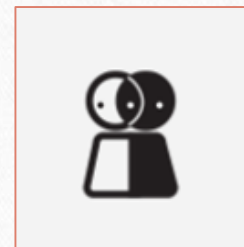


(2) RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

What does Unia do?

UNIA combats **RACISM** in all its forms by:

- ☐ advising and supporting discriminated persons;
- ☐ information campaigns, and training;
- ☐ establishing reports and studies;
- ☐ informing employers about anti-discrimination law (E-training);
- ☐ providing the authorities concerned with recommendations;
- ☐ consulting with the public authorities and associations.





La Maison des Arts Ouverte

Activities

About Globe Aroma

Globe Aroma is a non-profit organization. In this “Open House of Arts” *refugees new arrivals artists and Brussels residents* may develop participative artistic projects supervised by professional artists. Globe Aroma is also an *atelier* and an alternative place for the newcomers’ presentation and meeting

T A R G E T

- ☐ Permanent and living exhibition
- ☐ House open to external artistic projects (schools, artistic institution)
- ☐ Long-term participatory and multidisciplinary artistic projects
- ☐ Transnational networks



(2) La Maison des Arts Ouverte

- ❑ Centre for Asylum seekers-Petit Château
- ❑ Asbl BON-Bureau pour l'intégration civique
- ❑ Centers for local services:
Forum, Cosmos, De Harmonie



ARTISTS



(3) La Maison des Arts Ouverte

PROJECT

What does Globe Aroma do?

Hi5! is a cultural and artistic festival

organized in a public space with five social housing clubs situated in *Rempart des Moines*, heart of the city of Brussels. The majority of the inhabitants of the area live below the poverty line and many of them never participate in cultural and artistic activities.

Hi5! encourages meetings between inhabitants, spreading music, dance and poetry also promoting migrants social inclusion

“Hi5!”



Links and Sources

1. <http://www.mipex.eu/belgium>
2. <http://www.mipex.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/pdf/files/belgium.pdf>
3. http://www.worldmayor.com/contest_2016/world-mayor-project-2016.html
4. <http://unia.be/en>
5. <http://www.globearoma.be/fr/>

ECEPAA

Rue des Foulons n. 47

Bruxelles, 1000

tel (+32) 483419766

Email: info@ecepaa.eu