

PLATFORM FOR INTERCULTURAL EUROPE



The Platform for Intercultural Europe is a civil society initiative developed in response to the 2006 European Commission's announcement that 2008 would be the "European Year of Intercultural Dialogue".

The Cultural Foundation together with the European Forum for the Arts and Heritage (which later became Culture Action Europe) then initiated a civil society platform with the aim of “heightening the impact and effectiveness of the European Year, sharing concepts and practice of intercultural dialogue, working towards integrated strategies for intercultural dialogue, mobilizing the sector to have a voice, contributing to policy analysis and development, and influencing cultural policy-making.” The European Commission welcomed the creation of this civil society platform for intercultural dialogue and involved it in the preparations for and the activities of the European Year for Intercultural Dialogue 2008. At the end of 2008 the platform became a membership association in its own right. From 2009 to 2013 it is benefitting from annual operating

grants under the EU Culture Programme. Since 2008, the Platform has been working to ensure that the legacy of the European Year 2008 is built upon by the EU institutions in particular, but also at other government levels and by civil society organisations.

Mission

Its mission is to fulfill the following needs:

- To develop understanding of the concepts behind intercultural dialogue and action
- To provide a space for cross-sectoral engagement, reflection and learning
- To represent the experience, insights and needs of those civic actors who promote intercultural dialogue and action
- To influence policy-making in the European Union through which national, regional and local policies on diversity and intercultural engagement can improve

Vision

Its vision is of a European community that values its diverse people and engages in Intercultural Dialogue as a means to enables their free, full and equal participation in society.

- Free participation: voluntary and accessible without arbitrary barriers or restrictions.
- Full participation: commitment to investigating low participation, efforts to encourage participation.
- Equal participation: equal status with regard to the activities and processes, which determine people's life chances; equal power to set the terms of participation.

To know more about the Platform for Intercultural Europe:

www.intercultural-europe.org

To read the Rainbow Paper and endorse it, go to:

rainbowpaper.labforculture.org

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Tags: intercultural dialogue