



European Network Against Racism  
Réseau européen contre le racisme  
Europäisches Netz gegen Rassismus

**ENAR policy seminar on  
migration, integration,  
social inclusion and anti-  
discrimination  
1-2 March 2007, Brussels**

## **CONCEPT PAPER**

### **1. The context**

The member states of the European Union face a variety of different contexts with regard to immigrants and third country nationals. The flows of migrants *to and from* a territory relate to the developments specific to the history of each member state, as well as particular economic and policy developments. In parallel, restrictive immigration policies and temporary workers, trafficking, undocumented workers, and asylum seekers have created new clusters of immigrants without legal status who are treated as *second class citizens*: socially excluded and subject to various forms of discrimination with regard to access to rights, employment, education, and social services. These migration trends combined with family reunion mechanisms have created different patterns and situations when it comes to integration in the so-called ‘host societies’.

### **2. The relationship between Migration, Integration, Social inclusion and Anti-discrimination policies: identifying the missing policy links**

The complex policy framework surrounding EU policies on integration and migration has to be acknowledged as one of the stumbling blocks of recent attempts to provide comprehensive strategies for the integration of all migrants. Many of the policy approaches to date have recognised that anti-racism and the fight against discrimination are an important element of any integration strategy. However they have failed to recognise that *anti-discrimination and social inclusion are both pre-requisites for, and modus operandi of, successful integration strategies*.

Whilst a useful benchmark, “the 11 Common Basic Principles on Integration” (CBPs) adopted by the Council at the end of 2004 fail to adequately take into account the centrality of anti-racism and anti-discrimination policies in integration strategies. Anti-discrimination is not named in the 11 Common Basic Principles, and in the annex, which elaborates on the content of the principles, is referenced in less than half of the principles.

European, national and local policies relating to anti-discrimination, social inclusion, integration and migration are affected by artificial divisions and a complex policy-making framework. The need for joined-up policy by the key institutional stakeholders is urgent. Developing coordination with the key structures of justice and home affairs, and employment and social affairs will impact positively on a range of other policy areas including education, health, housing etc. This will directly contribute to the effective implementation of the integration agenda, in particular the CBPs, by ensuring the integration needs of migrants are addressed in all relevant policies areas, an approach that must be informed by the anti-discrimination imperative.



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### 3. The role of civil society

Civil society organisations and NGOs, in particular anti-racist NGOs and those more broadly concerned with the rights of migrants, play a crucial role in fostering integration at the national, regional and local levels. The ENAR policy seminar will from the outset adopt a **civil society perspective** in examining all the issues under reference. The project is rooted within a partnership including the **Social Platform**, the **European Anti Poverty Network** and the **Anti-discrimination networks** operating in Brussels. The project will seek to establish bridges of cooperation with other applicants to the European Programme for Integration and Migration.

### 4. The purpose of the policy seminar

The purpose of the seminar is to explore the intersections between the racism, anti discrimination, social inclusion and integration agendas from the perspective of migration, recognising that these concepts are intrinsically linked.

This seminar provides the opportunity to explore the links between these European policy agendas and provide recommendations for a more cohesive approach to European efforts to promote inclusive societies. It will aim to address the view points shared by the civil society concerned with the integration agenda. It will seek to empower the civil society and policy makers to clarify the conceptual framework surrounding integration and acts a driving force to forward policy changes.

### 5. Objectives of the seminar

- a) Raise awareness among the ENAR membership and policy makers on the debate on integration, anti-discrimination, social inclusion and migration policies;
- b) Gain an overview of migration policies at European and national level;
- c) Assess critically the 11 Basic Common Principles in relation to various policy parameters including legal status, social inclusion, anti-discrimination, equal opportunities, political rights, and civic, social, and cultural participation;
- d) Gain an overview of the best practices and lessons learnt from civil society with regard to the integration of migrants
- e) Act as a forum of exchange between anti-racist civil society, migrants' organisations, anti-discrimination European networks, social NGOs and policy makers;
- f) Define guidelines for a common European integration framework;
- g) Contribute to enhancing structured cooperation between Member States and EU institutions in defining the way forward.

## **6. Seminar partners**

ENAR has convened a group of European level networks to contribute to the preparation of the seminar: the European Women's Lobby, the Platform of Social NGOs, December 18, the European Anti Poverty Network, SOLIDAR, PICUM, the Migration Policy Group, the Churches Commission for Migrants in Europe, Caritas Europe and ECRE.

## **7. Outputs of the seminar**

- **A policy seminar** of two days, with a background paper;
- **Printed proceedings and recommendations;**
- **Decentralised dissemination of the results of the policy seminar.**