



## PRESS RELEASE

# Almost 30 applicants shortlisted for the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award 2023

**28 March 2023 – Almost 75 regions, towns and cities from across the European Union applied for the second edition of the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award with 29 applicants making it to the final round.**

For a second consecutive year, a large amount of European local authorities responded to the European Commission's call for the [European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award](#), showcasing their policies, plans and initiatives for inclusion and diversity in their local societies.

**European Commissioner for Equality Helena Dalli** said: *"I am grateful to all 74 local authorities that applied for this year's European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award. You are showcasing in the best possible way the extent to which the European Union upholds equality and diversity and strives to be inclusive for all of its communities. Your efforts to ensure everyone gets equal treatment and enjoys their rights as citizens must be supported and commended."*

The 29 finalists come from ten European countries: Croatia, Finland, Spain, Italy, Germany, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, France, and Belgium.

The shortlisted candidates will go through a **final round of evaluation** to claim Gold, Silver and Bronze awards in three categories:

- Local authorities with more than 50,000 inhabitants
- Local authorities with less than 50,000 inhabitants
- Special award for promoting LGBTIQ equality

The winners for this year's Award will be announced at a ceremony hosted by Commissioner Dalli in Brussels **on 27 April 2023**.

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### About the #DiversityCapitals Competition

The Award recognises the work done by cities, towns, or regions in the European Union to promote inclusion and create discrimination-free societies.

The competition is a chance for local authorities to showcase policies and initiatives that create more diverse and inclusive spaces for their citizens.

It covers initiatives that promote diversity and inclusion in terms of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age and LGBTIQ equality as well as intersectionality, the interconnected relationship of different forms of social categorisation.

Read our [media backgrounder](#) to learn more about the Award and how it works.

### **Media Contact**

For media enquiries or if you'd like to receive our news releases around the Award, please write to:  
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