



**EUROPEAN CAPITALS
OF INCLUSION
AND DIVERSITY**

**Webinar for
potential applicants**

18 January 2022

Introducing the Award



- On 22 November 2021 the European Commission launched the [European Capitals of Diversity and Inclusion Award](#). It is the first time the Commission sets out to reward towns, cities and regions in the European Union for their work in promoting inclusion and helping to create discrimination free societies.
- The award, which is part of the [Commission's anti-racism action plan](#) and [LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025](#) aims to recognize local authorities' best practices that can be a source of inspiration for other European cities in creating more diverse and inclusive environments for their citizens.

Who will be awarded



- The Award will recognise three cities in **two categories**:
 - local authorities with less than 50 000 inhabitants;
 - local authorities with more than 50 000 inhabitants.
- In 2022, a **Specific Award for local authorities promoting Roma inclusion** will also be handed out. There will be three winners in this category (the number of inhabitants is not a factor for this award).

Applications



- The Award is open to all local authorities, including towns, cities and regions of the EU Member States.
- Best practices covering all grounds of discrimination under [article 19 of TFEU](#) and their intersectionality are eligible.
- You can learn more about the Award on the official [website](#) available in EU official languages. You can find there also the [rules of competition](#) and [guidelines](#) for applications.
- The [applications](#) can also be submitted in any official EU language.

Eligibility criteria 1/2

- The submitting body must be a **governmental authority (town, city or region)** in one of the EU Member States. The submitting body shall be an administrative unit governed by a city council or another form of democratically elected governmental body.
- The signatory should be the **legal representative** authorised, by national law, to legally represent the local authority. They will sign the ‘Official declaration’.
- Applicants are encouraged to submit their project proposal in **English**, but proposals submitted in **any of the official languages of the EU** will be accepted (translated by automatic translation).
- Deadline for applications is **15 February 2022, 12:00 CET**.

Eligibility criteria 2/2

- Candidate local authorities shall answer all the questions, complete all sections of the application form and adhere to the word limits indicated per section of the application form. The Roma-specific applicants shall also fill the Roma-related section for the specific award.
- In addition to the information provided in the application form, candidates must upload the Official declaration.
- To support their application, candidates can also upload – or provide a link to – a ten slides PowerPoint presentation and other supporting documents/links in order to illustrate and highlight the strong points of their application.

Award criteria (1/7)

- Both independent experts and EU Juries will assess the candidate local authorities based on the following evaluation criteria.

1, Nature and scope of the initiative

- Description of actions, policies and initiatives - whether already implemented or at the planning stage.
- Application covering different grounds (sex, age, disability, ethnic/racial origin, religion or LGBTIQ) and demonstrating an intersectional approach are encouraged.
- Demonstrate a coherent approach to equality and diversity across various policy fields and an ambitious vision in tackling discrimination in the local authority.

Award criteria (2/7)

2, Ownership, level of commitment

- Outline the structures or framework set up in the local administration to implement equality actions.
- Demonstrate that the actions implemented or planned are part of a coherent strategy or policy framework, rather than just ad hoc projects.
- The inclusion and diversity strategy must be mainstreamed in the local authority's policies and its regulations. A policy statement/commitment on inclusion and diversity at high level of responsibility must be visible. Information about appropriate resources (staff, budget, etc.) allocated to implement these policies should be provided.

Award criteria (3/7)

3, Impact

- Policies/initiatives shall have a demonstrable positive impact on the everyday life of persons from minority groups, and on the overall quality of life in the local authority.
- Examples of initiatives initially targeting persons from minority groups (sex, age, disability, ethnic/racial minorities, religion and LGBTIQ) shall be provided, explaining how they benefit wider parts of the population, when relevant. An intersectional approach is definitely an asset.
- The applicants shall include qualitative and quantitative data to support claims of success and provide concrete examples. It is important to mention project(s) – if any - involving people from minority groups. Planned initiatives and policies will be assessed on the basis of their coherence and potential impact.

Award criteria (4/7)

4, Quality and sustainability of results

- Explain what structures, mechanisms and processes have been put in place to ensure the quality and sustainability of the results achieved.
- The quality of results is defined in terms of improvements made to the level of inclusion and diversity and advancing compliance with standards and legislation.
- Delivering sustainable results requires continuous efforts, secure resources and the establishment of a sound structure; evaluation and monitoring mechanisms are essential to evaluate success.

Award criteria (5/7)

5, Involvement of persons from minority groups and relevant partners

- Active and clear involvement of persons from minority groups, their representative organisations, and inclusion and diversity experts must be demonstrated in the planning, implementation and maintenance of local authority's policies and initiatives aimed at increased inclusion.
- The applicants shall also outline how they raise awareness around inclusion and diversity; whether and how they disseminate, exchange and share experience and good practices with other local authorities at local, regional, national and/or European level.

Award criteria (6/7)

Criterion	Maximum no. of points
1. Relevance to the objectives	20
2. Ownership, level of commitment	20
3. Impact	20
4. Quality and sustainability of results	20
5. Involvement of persons with minority background relevant partners	20
TOTAL	100

Award criteria (7/7)

- Local authorities competing for **the Roma-specific award** shall reply to both the general part and the Roma-specific part of the application form. Their assessment will be made on the same criteria as the general competition plus the answers to the Roma-specific questions.
- The rules of contest and criteria may be updated in the future and reassessed in views of the outcomes for the future editions.

Award ceremony



- The winners of the European capitals for inclusion and diversity 2022 Award and the Roma-specific Award will officially be announced at the **Award Ceremony in Brussels or online on April 28, 2022.**
- Mayors of the winning cities from each category will be invited to Brussels to receive their prize.
- They will receive a physical award and a framed diploma. They will be promoted on social media as the winners and they will be able to use a 'winner visual' on their websites/materials etc.



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<https://www.eudiversity2022.eu/the-award>



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@helenadalli

Today we launch the process towards the 1st European Capitals of Inclusion & Diversity Award. In the #UnionOfEquality, we want to recognise #DiversityCapitals: i.e outstanding work by towns, cities and regions. Applications open until 15 February 2022 📌
<https://t.co/8m3KuQetM9> <https://t.co/Vlp1F...>

22.11.2021 - 13:39



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Thank you very much for your attention



Contact: award@eudiversity2022.eu