

15th June 2022

Paupio "Pasaka" cinema theatre,
Paupio st. 26, Vilnius, Lithuania

THE POLICIES OF (UN)WELCOME REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

International Conference

The event will draw attention to the **refugee reception and integration** in the context of crisis by taking regional approach and engaging speakers from the Central and Eastern European and Mediterranean regions. It will focus on the perspectives of the different EU member states that were affected by sudden arrivals of migrants and refugees in the period of 2015-2021. Particularly, it will bring attention to the local and national perspectives of practitioners involved in responding to the needs of refugees and migrants.

Programme

12:30 – 13:00

Registration and coffee

13:00 – 13:20

Introduction

13:20 – 13:50

Keynote speaker of the conference (TBC)

13:50 – 14:50

PANEL I Lessons from the Mediterranean.

The panel will share experiences and lessons learnt during the 2015-2016 Mediterranean solidarity 'crisis' and will focus on the impact of these events on regional policies and public attitudes, reception as well as further integration policies for refugees in countries that faced large numbers of arrivals.

Speakers:

Marina Tomara, Inter Alia, Greece

Imanol Legarda Díaz-Aguado, SOS Racismo Arrazakeria, Spain

Živa Gabaj, Slovenska Filantropija, Slovenia

14:50 – 15:15

Q&A

15:15 – 15:30

Coffee break

Programme

The conference will be held in the framework of Solidarity in a Future Europe project, co-funded by the Europe for Citizens Programme of the EU.

15:30 – 16:30

PANEL II Evolving knowledge on the Eastern and Central frontier.

The panel will look at the responses of Eastern and Central European countries to the irregular migration from Belarus that started in 2021 vs. responses to the refugees fleeing Ukraine in 2022.

Speakers:

Rita Ster, Centrum Pomocy Prawnej Im.Haliny Nieć, Poland (online)

Giedrė Blažytė, PhD, Diversity Development Group, Lithuania

Soňa Spěvácová, Organizace pro pomoc uprchlíkům, Czech Republic

16:30 – 17:15

Q&A and a discussion

The discussion will draw upon similarities and differences in responses towards the three migration waves and their impact on hosting societies as well as migrant and refugee wellbeing.

17:15 – 17:30

Closing word