



Council of European Municipalities and Regions
Conseil des Communes et Régions d'Europe



Ministerium für Gesundheit,
Emanzipation, Pflege und Alter
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen



ELAC for migrant elders First "European Local Authorities Competition on Good Practices on the Support for Migrant Elders' Initiatives"

Call for submissions: the best projects on the support for migrant elders' initiatives wanted

The competition was launched by the Ministry for Health, Equalities, Care and Ageing of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), in partnership with the Committee of the Regions. ELAC for migrant elders is under the patronage of the President of the European Parliament.

Objective

Through this call, the partners seek to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of migrant elders¹. To achieve this, three concepts are of particular importance:

- The concept of active ageing: according to the WHO active ageing "allows people to realize their potential for physical, social, and mental well being throughout the life course and to participate in society according to their needs, desires and capacities, while providing them with adequate protection, security and care when they require assistance". "Active" in this context "refers to continuing participation in social, economic, cultural, spiritual and civic affairs, not just the ability to be physically active or to participate in the labour force".
- The concept of mutual integration: integration is seen as a two-way process based on mutual rights and corresponding obligations of migrants and the host society, which provides for full participation of the migrant elders.
- The concept of empowerment: according to this concept individuals should be supported in (re)gaining their freedom of choice and decision and in freely choosing their way of life. This concept focuses on the potential and resources that migrant elders bring along.

Proposed projects or initiatives should be in line with these objectives.

Criteria

Applicants should demonstrate how their initiative contributes to active ageing, mutual integration and empowerment of migrant elders as described above.

¹ Definitions of migrant elders differ between the European countries and groups of migrant elders are very heterogeneous. Migrant elders can be classified in the following way:

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- (1) elders from ethnic minority groups such as those who are linked to post-war colonial labour migration,
 - (2) elders from national minorities that are more regionally concentrated and have been established for many generations, as well as so-called (late) repatriates,
 - (3) newer forms of (short and sometimes long term) migration, such as retirement and affluence migration (for instance, German or British elder migrants in Spain), older employees and long-term visitors,
 - (4) older or aged refugees and
 - (5) elders in the context of illegal migration.

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Furthermore, proposed initiatives must meet the following criteria:

- Innovation: The initiative should be innovative. Innovation means the implementation and realization of new ideas in products and services as well as new forms of participation of migrant elders.
- Sustainability: The initiative should last for a longer period and have a strong and solid structure. It should take into account the economic, environmental and social dimension of sustainability.
- Concreteness: The initiative should bring concrete answers to specific problems experienced by migrant elders.
- Transferability: The initiative should have the capacity to be a source of inspiration to other local authorities.
- Communication: Mechanisms to communicate the initiative should be used.

The initiative must be linked to one or more of the following fields:

- Housing
- Leisure and culture
- Social and intergenerational activities
- Support of economic activities related to culturally sensitive products and services
- Supporting volunteering by and for migrant elders

Formal criteria:

- The Initiative must be proposed by a local authority from an EU Member State, an EU Candidate Country or an EEA/EFTA country.
- The application can be a decision taken by
 - o High (political) representatives
 - o Local governing bodies
 - o Round Tables of local authorities and their experts and organizations of migrant elders
- The initiative must be already well advanced or accomplished.
- The application form must be completed in English or German.
- The application form must be fully completed.
- The application form must be sent electronically. A signed validation of the application must be sent in paper version.
- The application must be received by **31 October 2010** at the latest.

Prizes given out

1. €3000 prize
2. €1500 prize
3. €1000 prize

The jury will invite representatives from the 15 best initiatives to present the initiative at a meeting in December 2010 or January 2011.

Awards ceremony

The awards ceremony will take place in February 2011 at the Committee of the Regions in Brussels. The results will be summarised in the form of recommendations for European towns and municipalities, which will be presented mid-2011. The competition builds on the project "Active Ageing of Migrant Elders across Europe" (www.aamee.eu).

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Practical information

The application package including this call for submissions, an application form and a validation form is available at the following website:
www.aktioncourage.org/ELACinenglish. Deadline for application is **31 October 2010**.

There is no right of appeal.

For more information please contact

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