

## INTEGRO in Cyprus

KISA, taking into account the realities in Cyprus, the groups of migrant integration concerns (domestic workers, workers in the agricultural/farming industry, employees of offshore companies, students, refugees and members of families of EU/Cypriot citizens) and their specific needs, as well as the complete absence of any projects and actions in Cyprus to promote migrants' active participation in the integration process, proposes that the pilot project should:

- Set structures for the self-representation of migrants – especially migrant women, their empowerment and self-organisation, in order to create a sustainable and empowering migrant community.
- Support migrants in becoming aware of and claiming their rights, with special emphasis on fighting to stop labour exploitation and improving their working and living conditions.
- Raise awareness about and fight to stop violence against migrants, especially migrant women.
- Raise awareness on the particular vulnerability of migrants (especially in the context of the economic crisis) and particularly of migrant women and the need to fight against it.



### Contact us

Any organisations/persons interested in participating [or, getting actively involved] in the project can contact us at:

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For more information about the project and its activities, both in Cyprus and the other partner countries, you can visit the project website:  
<http://www.integro-project.org/>



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## INTEGRATION ON THE GROUND



Ισότητα, Στήριξη, Αντιρατσισμός  
Equality, Support, Antiracism

## Integration in the European Union

Integration is the most important strategy / policy tool of the European Union (E.U.) in relation to migration. In the E.U., integration is seen as a dynamic, two-way process concerning equally migrants and citizens. Integration should promote both a positive stance of the hosting societies of the Member States towards migration and migrants, and support migrants in becoming active citizens in all fields of life (socially, culturally, politically and economically). It must be acknowledged however that the policies of the E.U. on integration exclude undocumented migrants and, as a result, integration in this respect cannot be fully effective, and undocumented migrants are further marginalised. Within this framework, the E.U. has published the “[Handbook on Integration](http://tinyurl.com/nr33bad)” (<http://tinyurl.com/nr33bad>) with 11 Common Basic Principles (CBP) for the integration of third-country migrants that Member States must adopt in designing and implementing integration plans and/or policies. [Reference to the Common Basic Principles]



## INTEGRO and ENAR's Integration Principles

[KISA](http://nicem.org.uk) together with [NICEM](http://nicem.org.uk), Northern Ireland (<http://nicem.org.uk>), which is the project coordinator, [Citizens for Europe](http://citizensforeurope.org/), Germany (<http://citizensforeurope.org/>), [Association for Integration and Migration](http://www.migrace.com), Czech Republic (<http://www.migrace.com>), and [Radio Afrika TV](http://www.radioafrika.net/), Austria (<http://www.radioafrika.net/>) have been awarded a grant for the INTEGRO project by the European Commission, which co-funds it. [INTEGRO](http://www.integro-project.org/) (<http://www.integro-project.org/>) is based on the combination of the 11 Common Basic Principles of the E.U. for migrant integration, as described above, and the integration principles of the *ENAR toolkit: “Working on Integration at local level”* ([http://www.enar-eu.org/IMG/pdf/toolkit\\_en\\_low\\_final.pdf](http://www.enar-eu.org/IMG/pdf/toolkit_en_low_final.pdf)). The toolkit provides guidance on 15 principles which should underpin projects and aim to achieve integration from the point of view of the civil society.



## Integration in Cyprus

In 2010, the Republic of Cyprus adopted an ambitious plan for the integration of migrants for the period 2010-2012. The Plan was developed by a special experts' committee and focused on eight pillars: 1) Information – Service – Transparency, 2) Employment – Training – Trade Unions, 3) Education and Language Learning, 4) Health, 5) Housing - Improving quality of life – social protection and interaction, 6) Culture – Civic – key elements of political and social reality, 7) Inclusiveness, and 8) Evaluation - Annual and Total. This plan has never been fully implemented, due mainly to lack of political will, especially after the economic crisis. Some actions and specific aspects of integration moved on through co-funded projects, while the rest of the Plan seems to have been abandoned.



## Key Stages of the Project

The project has three phases: Phase One (December 2013 – May 2014) involves a mapping of integration exercise, data collection regarding the realities and needs in each participating country, discussions and exchanges of expertise, knowledge, information and good practices among all stakeholders. During Phase Two (June – November 2014), a pilot project will be designed and developed, according to the knowledge and expertise that will have been gained in Phase One and on the basis of the above mentioned integration principles, taking also into account the local needs in setting its priorities. Phase Three (December 2014 – May 2015) includes the implementation of the pilot project and it will be completed with the evaluation of both the pilot project, locally, and the whole project of INTEGRO, at European level.

Using the results of the mapping exercise, there will be two meetings with stakeholders to discuss the issues that will arise and to evaluate together the situation on the ground regarding integration issues in Cyprus and how proceed. Moreover, there will be two roundtables to exchange opinions, knowledge, expertise and good practices. After the meetings with the stakeholders and the roundtables, the pilot project will be designed and then implemented. The final conference of INTEGRO will take place in Cyprus at the end of the project.