



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

8th meeting of the European Migration Forum

"Migrants in Europe today: specific needs, skills and communication for stronger inclusion"

Brussels, 4-5 December 2023

Background & Main Objectives

The [European Migration Forum \(EMF\)](#), organised by the European Commission and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), is a platform for dialogue¹ between civil society and European institutions on issues related to migration, asylum and integration. The aim of the forum is to **enhance coordination and cooperation between key players involved in the multilevel European governance of migration**. It should help European policy-makers to understand better the main challenges that civil society organisations and social partners face in the field, and to identify ways to better support their efforts to address migrants' needs

The 8th annual EMF will take place on **4-5 December 2023 in Brussels**.

This year's EMF, entitled "**Migrants in Europe today: specific needs, skills and communication for stronger inclusion**", aims to address how to identify and support migrants and refugees with specific needs; examine public attitudes and communication on migration and inclusion, as well as look at sustainable labour market integration. These subjects were selected following written and physical public consultations with civil society representatives, in addition to thorough reflections of the EMF bureau.

This call aims to **select** the participants to the forum, namely organisations working on these issues at the local, regional and civil society level, whose expertise and contributions bring added value to the forum.

Format of the event

The forum will seek to ensure an **interactive and participatory approach** from participants and EU policy-makers alike. The core of the event will consist of roundtable discussions, working groups, and panel discussions. There will also be a 'Networking Village', where some participants will be able to present their projects or good practice.

¹ The European Migration Forum employs a participatory approach, which entails the close involvement of civil society organisations in the preparation and organisation of meetings. Conclusions and summary reports from earlier meetings can be found under: <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/sections-other-bodies/other/european-migration-forum/events>.



Selection of participants

This call for expression of interest is open to all civil society organisations that:

- are **legally based** in an EU Member State²;
- **have experience** in the topic of the Forum, at EU, national or local level;
- are **able to raise awareness** of relevant issues in their own constituency, national and European networks; and
- commit to actively **participate** in the meeting and contribute to the dissemination of the results of the Forum

To apply, **please complete the application form [here](#)** in English by **14 September**. Late applications will not be considered.

Participants will be mainly selected according to **how relevant** their work is to the topics of this year's EMF. Moreover, the selection will be based on the need to ensure:

a) geographical balance;

b) diversity of fields of expertise, activities and types of organisations.

Please note that the **working language** of the forum is **English**. Interpretation for a limited number of languages will be provided at the plenary sessions only. Therefore, participants must have a strong command of English.

A maximum of **120** civil society organisations will be selected. Approximately 1/3 will be organisations active at EU level (umbrella organisations, EU networks, platforms, etc.) and 2/3 will be national, regional and local level organisations.

The European Commission and the EESC are in charge of the selection procedure. The final list of participants will be approved by the EMF bureau.

Next steps

Selected participants will receive an invitation to register for the event (including the programme and a link to the registration form).

***Please note that the European Commission is in charge of organising the travel and accommodation arrangements for **one representative** per organisation, via its travel agent. **Participants should not make their own travel arrangements as these will not be reimbursed by the Commission.**

² The travel costs of a participant to the forum will not be covered if they are based and/or are travelling from an overseas territory of an EU Member State.