PRESS RELEASE



STAGE: the European project aiming at the inclusion of migrants

The current situation in Europe is leading to an alarming criminalization of people fleeing and those trying to help them. The year 2023 was one of the deadliest years in the central Mediterranean. According to IOM, more than 2,250 people lost their lives trying to cross it in the absence of alternatives. While the political debate seems to remain polarized over the externalization of borders, people continue to move to seek a better future for themselves and their loved ones.

In this context, the <u>STAGE</u> project aims to **strengthen the social inclusion of migrants** in partner countries, regardless of racial and ethnic identity, gender, age and sexual orientation. STAGE is an Erasmus plus project that aims to create an environment in which migrants feel welcomed and included in the host country, while combating the **racism**, **xenophobia** and **discrimination** they face.

STAGE consortium is composed of **five organisations** based in **France**, **Cyprus**, **Greece**, **Germany** and **Italy**, which have committed to share the vision of better integration of migrants through the project and have worked together in total synergy for its implementation.

Project results

STAGE project has come to an end, all project resources have been developed. During the past months, the consortium of STAGE has collected data about migrant integration in the Partners Countries in order to better understand their needs. The research led to the creation of a Comprehensive Report about the Needs of the Migrants in Italy, Germany, France, Cyprus, and Greece.

The aim of this research was to collect data to create the content of **an innovative Web App and a training course**. The <u>Web App</u> was released in March 2023 and consists of a platform useful to familiarise oneself with the language of the host country, as it has basic language learning and translation services, and to build networks in local communities.



The application will support migrants, whether newcomers or not in local communities, on their arrival in the host country, but also in their daily life. It also includes a **mentoring area**, where migrants will be able to get in touch with mentors, an information area on services, where they can find useful links, and an interactive map to share migrants' stories and journeys.

Furthermore the Consortium has developed <u>a capacity building program</u> for NGO volunteers, adult education staff and people who wish to become mentors. It is only by completing the course that one can become a **STAGE mentor** and register one's profile in the Web App.

STAGE project is actively looking for people who would like to become mentors and thus contribute to the social inclusion of migrants.

All resources are available at https://stage-project.eu/

STAGE: a journey of social inclusion that invites solidarity!

