Directorate of Anti-discrimination Intercultural Cities Unit





Ref: ICC /IdA/lt/city Strasbourg, February 2021

Subject: Intercultural cities 2021

Dear Mayor,

Despite current uncertainty, the Intercultural Cities programme is looking at this new year with hope and is ready to continue promoting intercultural inclusion and interaction on the ground, taking advantage from the lessons learnt from the difficult period the past year has been for all. I am very pleased to note your continuous commitment towards the Intercultural Cities (ICC) principles and values at this difficult time and look forward to emerging from it, stronger together and with renewed force and enthusiasm.

It is with satisfaction the Council of Europe acknowledges how the Intercultural integration approach to building inclusive and cohesive diverse communities continuous to be a key goal for your municipality. I assure you of mine and my team support to assist your city officials in gaining additional insights, experiencing new methodologies and tools, sharing success stories and making contacts which can be useful to the intercultural transformation of your administration, particularly now that the membership to the ICC programme counts with over 140 participating cities. I very much look forward to getting in close contact all over the present year.

The Intercultural Cities Annual report that will be addressed to you by the end of March compiles detailed information on the ICC programme's implementation in the past year, we sincerely hope it will be of interest to you.

We would be delighted to continue the conversation on how to engage your city in the many activities proposed by the ICC programme. The next to come aims at increasing local authorities' capacity in the fields of communication and awareness raising on intercultural principles; alternative narratives; active participation; and sustainable intercultural societies. We have made the most of the new working possibilities brought about by the sanitary crisis, and warmly welcome you to explore our latest policy briefs, thematic papers and content, all available to member cities via the ICC website.

I'm also glad to inform you that we will soon launch a new call for grants to support inter-cities work on topics of common concern.

I look forward to maintaining regular exchanges with you and your team in the months to come.

Yours sincerely,

Ivana D'Alessandro Head of the Intercultural Cities Unit