NEW
FORMS OF EUROPEAN
CITIZENSHIP

IN
MIGRATION ERA

New forms of European Citizenship in Migration Era

Over a period of eighteen months over the years 2016/2018, a group of local, national and regional Civil society organizations in 16 countries, implemented a project aimed to explore how migrants are perceived in Europe and which actions take place in order to promote their active participation in society.

The project, coordinated by the Italian NGO "Fondazione Falcone", was supported by the "Europe for Citizens" Programme of the European Union. Considering the background of the Foundation, related to anti-mafia activities and investigations implemented by Judge Giovanni Falcone in the '80s and early '90s, the project aimed also to understand which activities, at international level, are implemented to fight against smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons.

The project had three main parts: an international survey on the perception of migrants and migration phenomenon in the concerned countries, the study of local and international activities on the field, the dissemination. This small publication reports the results of the first two phases of the project.

Promoting rights, legality and citizenship.

"Migrants emergency", "arrivals emergency", "invasion", "migrants warning". Words used to describe the increased arrival of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Europe, mainly in Greece and Italy, were often related to ideas of danger or emergency.

However, beside news headlines, which is the real perception of migration in our community among European citizens? How much this warning related to increased criminality related to migration is true? Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are actors of victims of organized crime?

With the aim to find answers to these and other questions, during last eighteen months the project NECME took place with the support of "Europe for Citizens" program of the European Union. The project gave to hundreds of Civil society representatives the possibility to meet, exchange ideas and experiences; also gave the opportunity to get in close contact with key Institutions engaged in fighting different forms of organized crime related with human beings trafficking and migrants smuggling. From the United Nations to the Antimafia Palermo District, involving of course also the FRA, the European Agency for Fundamental Rights, participants met some of the worldwide stakeholders of the fight against the organized crime. During those months, not only we tried to find answers to the mentioned questions; we also tried to explore and understand how, in each involved country, migrants' presence is the base and the input for new forms of citizenship. Active citizenship of the migrants themselves, but also of all citizens of the affected communities. Thanks to the support provided by Europe for Citizens, hundreds persons all over Europe had the opportunity to get knowledge behind stereotypes; had the chance to develop new ideas and activities.

We all together tried to develop a new vision and a new reality of Europe. Where legality, rights and citizenship go alongside the development of all and each community.

Maria Falcone, President of Falcone Foundation

Public Perception of Migration in European Society. An international survey

At the beginning of 2017, the partners of the project "New forms of European citizenship in migration era" (NECME) conduced an international survey focusing on public perceptions of migration in European society. Data collection happened in 16 European countries, including Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Spain. This document presents the methodology of the survey and introduces one part of the results, focusing on issues such as:

- Migration experience of the respondents and their families;
- Perception of the term "migrant" and the perceived number of migrants in the respondents' countries;
- Perception about the number of migrants in ones' country and various societal issues, opportunities and potential risks related to presence of migrants in ones' country;
- The perceived reasons for migration.

Methods and the profile of the respondents

The survey was conducted by using an online questionnaire that was created in English by two project partners, University of Palermo in Italy, and Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences in Latvia. Later the questionnaire was translated by in all project's languages and spread to partners. The survey was conducted with the help of a cloud-based software. When looking at the data presented below, what has to be taken into account, are the variations in the approaches that the project partners applied in distributing the questionnaire and reaching the research participants. The distribution mainly was based on the existing contact databases at the organizations' disposal and by the use of social media, and this fact makes the sample by no means representative. However, we believe that the high number of the respondents (N=3803) reached makes the results appealing on international level and points to some tendencies and disparities towards the issue of interest.

The initial aim was to collect about 250 – 300 responses per country. The aim was met with varied success between the involved countries; however, all together project partners collected 3803 responses. 61% of the respondents were female, 39% - male. Most of the respondents were from the age group between 16 – 40 years. The age distribution is shown in the Graph 1 below.

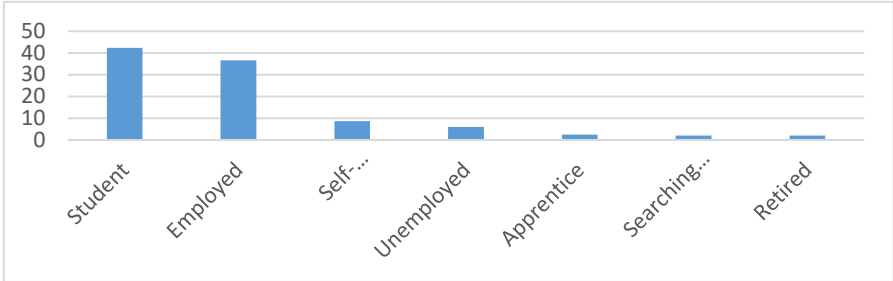**Graph 1.1. The age distribution of the respondents.**
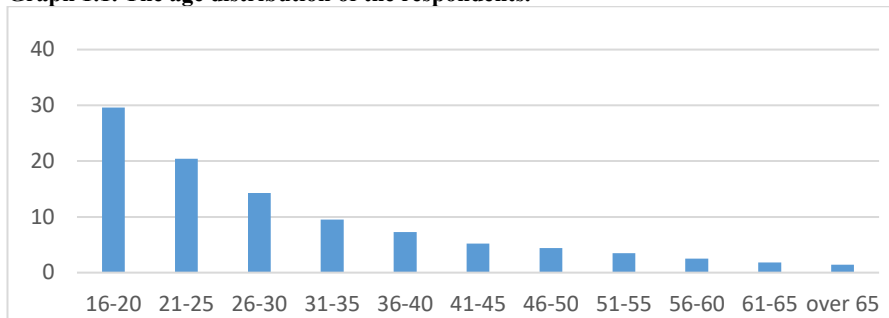
Regarding the level of education, as the Graph 2 shows, most respondents had either secondary or bachelor degree.

Graph 1.2. The educational level of the respondents.
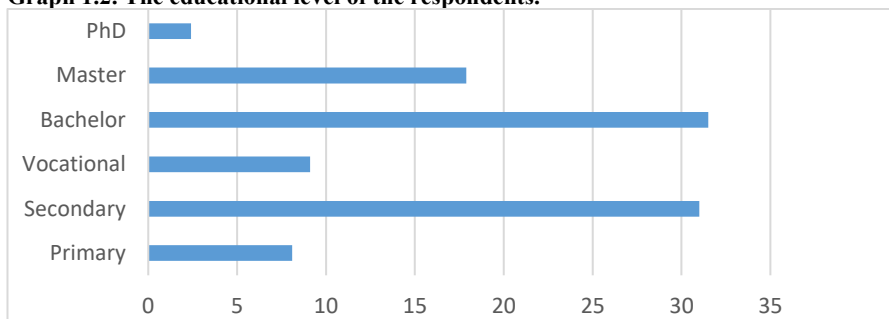
Last, most of the respondents were either students or employees.

**Graph 1.3. The occupational status of the respondents.**

Migration experience of the respondents and their families

The participants were asked whether they have experienced migration that has lasted for then one year. As it is shown in Graph 4 below, the proportion of the respondents with migration experience was not dominant, ranging from 34.6% in Malta, 33.3 in Belgium, 25% in Serbia, to 6,7% in Republic of Macedonia. Except for Germany, where more than 80% of the survey participants had experience of migration lasting longer than one year, and this particular exceptional difference can be explained by the various approaches that the project partners applied in the survey distribution. As the Graph 5 shows, most of the respondents in Germany had participated in some exchange programs. Also the number of respondents with exchange experience in other countries was quite big, ranging from 54,2% in Serbia to 20% in Croatia.

**Graph 1.4. Migration experience between respondents.**
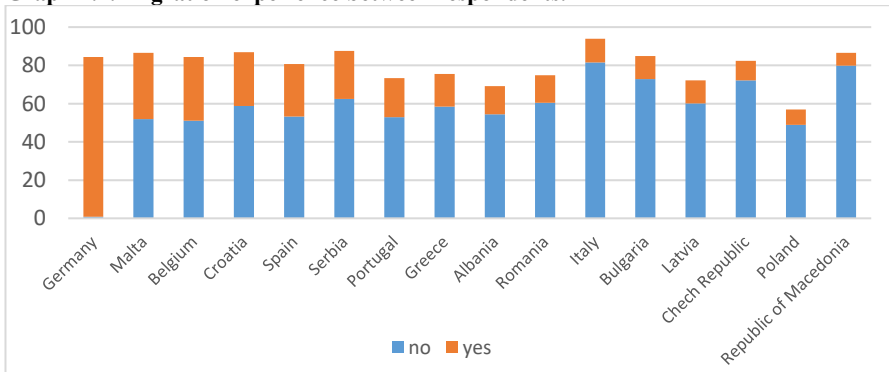
Graph 1.5. Experience of respondents in exchange programs.
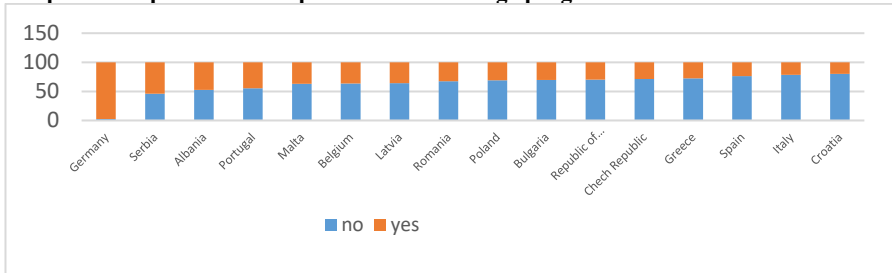
Next, the respondents were asked whether their families have experienced migration for periods longer than one year. As the Graph 6 shows, there were notable differences between countries: Poland had the highest difference between the experiences of participants themselves (8,0%) and their families (43,2%), while 83,5% of the respondents in Germany had experienced migration by themselves, while their families had such experience only in 15,0% of cases. Belgium, Malta, Croatia, Serbia, Portugal, and Spain fell somewhere in the same category with the participants' experiences of migration between 20% (Portugal) to 34,6% (Malta), with the family experiences between 13,1% (Croatia) to 26,8% (Portugal). Poland, Latvia, and Albania showed higher number in the family migration: 43,2% (Poland), 27,9% (Latvia), and 30,8% (Albania). Romania, Italy, and the Republic of Macedonia showed the lowest numbers in both the migration experience by the survey participants and also their families: 12,4% and 6,1% (Italy), 14,4% and 12.5% (Romania), and 6,7% and 13,5% (Republic of Macedonia).

Graph 1.6. The migration experience of the respondents and their families.
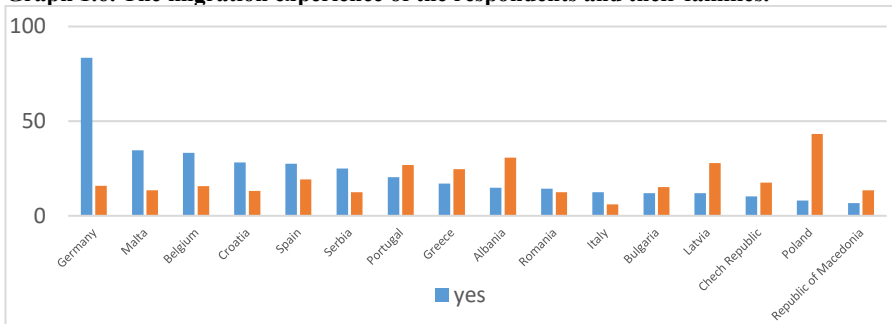
**Perception of the term "migrant" and the perceived number of migrants in the respondents' countries**

There were big differences in our data regarding the perception of the number of migrants in each country. In Belgium, for example, 76% pointed that there are "many" migrants in their country, while 8,5% of respondents from Republic of Macedonia gave the same answer. Among the countries with the highest level of perceived number of migrants were also Malta (73,4%), Greece (72,8%), Italy (65,8%), Spain (53%), Serbia (44,4%), Portugal (42,3%). In other countries the proportion of answers about "many" migrants in the country, was below 40%. The smallest number of respondents answering that there are many migrants in their country, was in Republic of Macedonia (8,5%), and Poland (11,8%). But, at the same time, 52% from all respondents pointed that the number of migrants in their countries, compared to other European countries, is smaller, while only 23% pointed that the number of migrants is bigger, compared to other European countries. The countries were the number of migrants compared was felt as bigger, were Italy, Greece, Belgium, Germany and Malta.

Graph 1.7. The perceived number of migrants in participants' countries.
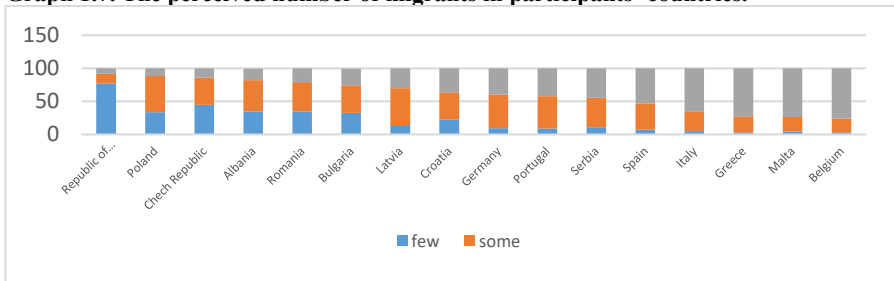
This question was related to another one that asked, whether people from other European countries should be considered as migrants. The summary of the answers is shown below, in Graph 8. The results show, that such idea was most welcomed in countries such as Germany (98,1%), followed by Serbia (77,8%), Albania (75,8%), Poland (67,6%) and Greece (65,4%), while being least popular in Croatia (40,5%), Spain (40,9%).

Graph 1.8. Responses to the question, whether people from other European countries should be considered as migrants.
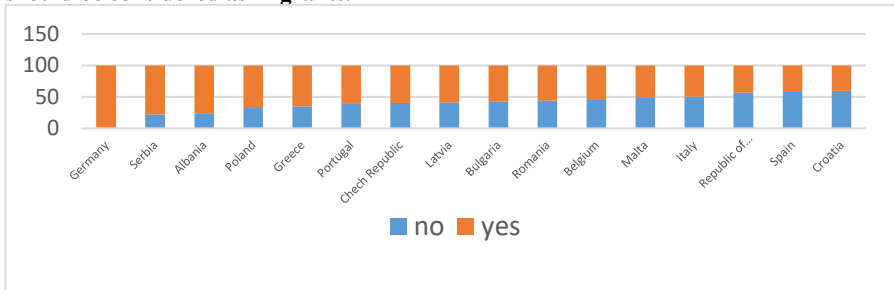
Migration and societal issues

Up for 72% of the respondents when asked whether migration can be related to decrease of public safety, answered with "sometimes", and the rest of answers was equally reflecting on "never" and "always". In responses from Republic of Macedonia, Poland, Latvia and Bulgaria survey participants agreed that migrants might contribute to terrorism and crime. In seven of the project countries, Croatia, Czech Republic, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Republic of Macedonia, and Serbia, the opinion dominate that migrants contribute rather little to the economic growth of the country, while in the other project countries the contribution to economic growth was seen as pretty important. In all these countries mentioned, the respondents estimated that migrants actually weaken the economic system of the destination country. However, at the same time, in all project countries the respondents agreed that migrants enrich the societies culturally, especially high agreement with this view was in Germany and Portugal. Germany also was the country where the threat to national identity from migrants was estimated as very low. Poland was the country where the opinion dominated that migrants have difficulties with integration due to religious differences. When asked about the most common reason for migration, the most popular opinion was that it happens either due to economic reasons (44,6% of all respondents), or as escape from wars and persecutions (43%), or escape from hunger and poverty (27,8%). Only 16,3% from all respondents answered that migrants want to take advantage of the economic resources and benefits from the destination country, while 11,6% thought that migration happens due to lack of border control. 6,1% of the respondents thought that migrants might be victims of human trafficking.

Perception of illegal migration

The participants were asked whether they are worried about the trend of illegal migration. Up for 80,6% of the respondents answered with "very" and "somewhat" concerned, and 19,4% answered whit "a little" and "not" concerned. The countries with the highest percentages, compared to the other partner countries, were Poland (97,0%), Romania (95,0%), Albania (92,0%), Italy (92,0%), Malta (90,0%) and Portugal (90,0%), although the countries with lower levels of concern about illegal migration include Germany (54,0%), Czech Republic (61,0%), Greece (67,0%) and Belgium (68,0%). Once we divided up the data it was interesting to discover that the 16-20-year-old group respondents were the most concerned with illegal migration in all partner countries (32,4%). As age increases, respondents became less concerned about illegal migration. Most of those who responded "a little or not concerned" were young adults between 26-30 years old. The data about the perception of the illegal migrants number shown that around 46,0% of respondents pointed that it was less than legal migrants. However, there were differences between some partner countries. It is interesting to note that respondents from Albania (78,0%), Portugal (75,0%), Czech Republic (73,0%), Germany (67,0%) and Belgium (65,0%) all pointed, more than others, that the number of illegal migrants in their country as compared to legal migrants was less *versus* the European percentage. Probably in some of these cases the flow of migrants is controlled or regulated more strongly. On the other hand, in Italy and in Greece, both with percentages below the European percentage, more than a half of respondents pointed that the number of illegal migrants is greater than legal migrants. In Greece it was 51,5% and in Italy 64,0%. This could be due to the fact that these are countries of first arrival and hold many migrants in detention or temporary sheltering camps.

Graph 2.1 Do you think the number of illegal migrants in your country are

	%
Less than legal migrants	**46,0%**
Greater than legal migrants	32,9%
Equal	21,1%
Tot.	100%

Perception of the exploitation of migrants

The participants were asked whether migrants may be exposed to forms of exploitation. If we add together the responses for "always" and "sometimes" we will see that up for 86,7% of respondents answered that migrants may be exposed to forms of exploitation and 91,5% of respondents said that the conditions of illegal migrants increase the risk of exploitation.

Graph 2.2 Perception of the exploitation of both legal and illegal migrants

	According to you, in your country, migrants may be exposed to forms of exploitation?	According to you, in your country, do the conditions of illegal migrants increase the risk of exploitation?
Always	16,0 %	29,5 %
Sometimes	70,7 %	62,0 %
Never	13,3 %	8,5 %

It is interesting to note that in the younger group respondents, the percentage of those who affirmed that regular and irregular migrants are exploited contradicts the idea that the migrants steal the job to local workers. The percentage of the answer "always" was highest in the 16-20-year-old group (both legal/illegal migrants may be "always" exploited 26,6% and 23,1%), while in the older groups just few respondents felt legal/illegal migrants may be "always" exploited. It's possible that young people have a closer generational proximity and that the older generations are fearful of job loss as a result of migration.

Graph 2.3 Perception of the exploitation of legal an illegal migrants by age

Age	Legal migrants are always exploited	Illegal migrants are always exploited
16-20	26,6%	23,1%
51-55	4,1%	5,1%
56-60	2,7%	3,3%
61-65	1,2%	2,1%
Over 65	1,6%	1,4%

This question was related to another one that asked whether the gender differences might affect the labor exploitation. The respondents felt labor

exploitation for men and women was "somewhat widespread" and a "little widespread" at about the same rate (61,3% and 59,0%). Traditionally the perception of the female labor exploitation is much more widespread. The partner countries responses are fairly homogeneous. This could reveal an interesting shift in the perception of the exploitation of migrant labor as it relates to gender.

Graph 2.4 Perception of the female and male labor exploitation

	female labor exploitation	male labor exploitation
Not widespread	12,6%	13,6%
A little widespread	26,1%	27,4%
Somewhat widespread	35,5%	34,2%
Very widespread	25,8%	24,8%

The respondents were asked also whether child labor exploitation is widespread in their countries. In this case the sample was split in a half: 49,7% of respondents answered that child labor exploitation is "not" or "only a little" widespread, while 50,3% answered "somewhat" or "very widespread". As it is shown in graph 2.5 below there were big differences in our data regarding the perception of the child labor exploitation between the partner countries. It seems more prevalent in the countries that experience immigration flows and are the most affected by the economic crisis as Greece, Albania, Italy and Spain.

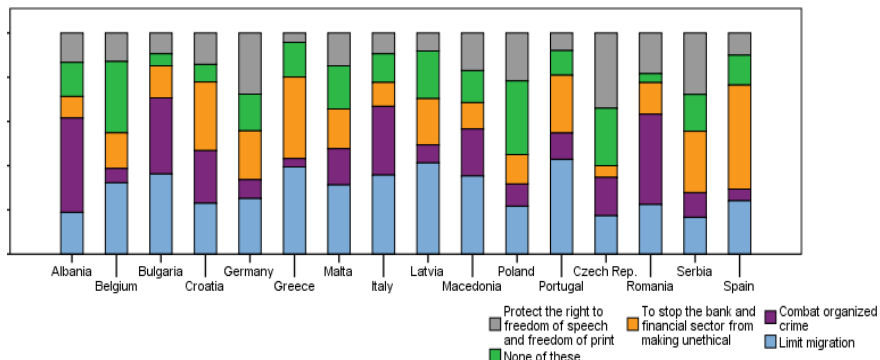**Graph 2.5 Perception of the child labor exploitation**
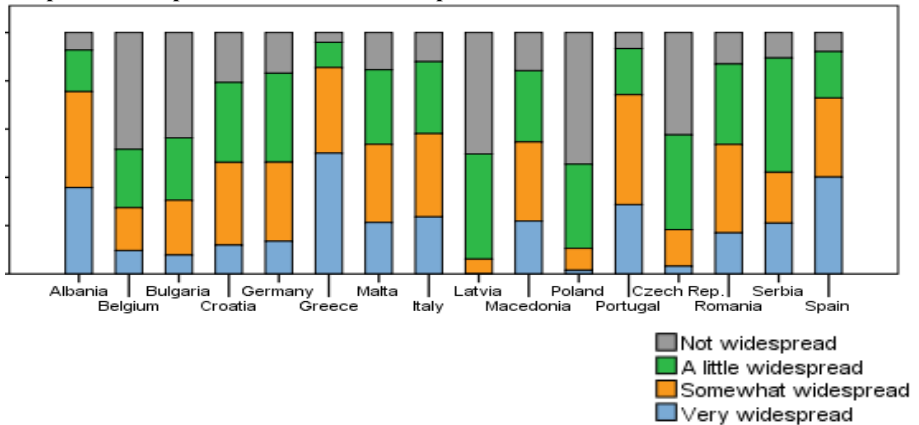
The relationship between migration and organized crime

Up for 46,1% of respondents answered that migration doesn't affect the spread of crime, while 53,9% of them answered that it affects the spread of crime. The results shown, that such idea was most common in countries as Macedonia (69,4%) Czech Republic (65,6%), Latvia (64,5%), Croatia (60,3%), Italy (59,8%), Malta (58,0%) and Belgium 57,2%). The relationship between organized crime and migration is reinforced by the data that show that up for 65,4% of the respondents when asked whether migrants can be recruited by organized crime, answered with "strongly agree" and "somewhat agree", while fewer respondents disagreed. The respondents were asked also whether migrants enter into organized crime networks voluntarily and in this case the perception of the relationship is reduced. Up for 39,0% of respondents was "strongly agreed" or "somewhat agreed", while 61,0% of respondents "strongly disagreed" or "disagreed". These numbers reflect the perception of partner countries respondents that migrants, in many cases, are victims and could be forced by organized crime to work for.

Opinions on objectives of government and border management

Another question that was asked it is abuot the main objective of the government. The first answer which the all partner countries respondents was "limit migration" (31,1%), followed by "combat organized crime" (20,7%), "to stop the banking and financial sector from making unethical profits" (19,7%), "protect the right of freedom and speech and print" (13,8%) and none of these (14,7%).

Graph 2.6 The opinions on the main objective of the government

Legend: Protect the right to freedom of speech and freedom of print | To stop the bank and financial sector from making unethical | Combat organized crime | None of these | Limit migration

Countries: Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Malta, Italy, Latvia, Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Czech Rep., Romania, Serbia, Spain

With regard to "limit migration" there were big differences in our data between the percentages in each country. The higher percentages of respondent who answered to "limit migration" as main objective of government were in Portugal (43,0%) Latvia (41,0%) and Greece (31,0%), while lower percentages in Serbia (17,0%), Czech Republic (17,0%), Albania (19,0%), Poland (22,0%), Romania (22,0%), Croatia (23,0%), Spain (24,0%) and Germany (25,0%). In other countries the proportion of answers was around the European percentage.

Graph 2.7 The differences of the percentages between countries

| Countries with higher percentage compared to EU average	Countries with EU average percentage (31%)	Countries with lower percentage compared to EU average
PORTUGAL 43%	MALTA	SERBIA 17% CZECH REP. 17%
LATVIA 41%	BELGIUM	ALBANIA 19%
GREECE 39%	MACEDONIA	POLAND 22% ROMANIA 22%
	BULGARIA	CROAZIA 23%
	ITALY	SPAIN 24%
		GERMANY 25%

In regards to border management, almost a half of the respondents demonstrated a willingness to be open to migrants on condition that natural citizens are guaranteed work (47,9%). A third of the respondents shown open for accepting migrants without conditions and accepting a multicultural society. The lower percentages were of those who believe countries must close their borders and defend their national identity.

Graph 2.8 the responses on the question about border management

Borders management options	%
We must unconditionally open all national borders, accepting multicultural society	31,5%
We must accept migrants with conditions only after guaranteeing a job for local citizens	47,9
We must close and patrol borders to defend the identity of our national countries	20,6

The countries with the highest percentages in favor of unconditionally opening of the borders included Portugal (63,5%), Germany (61,8%) and Spain (62,9%). The countries with the highest percentages in favor of closing their borders included Czech Republic (48,0%), Bulgaria (40,6%), Republic of Macedonia (39,1%).

Graph 2.9 the differences between countries about border menagement
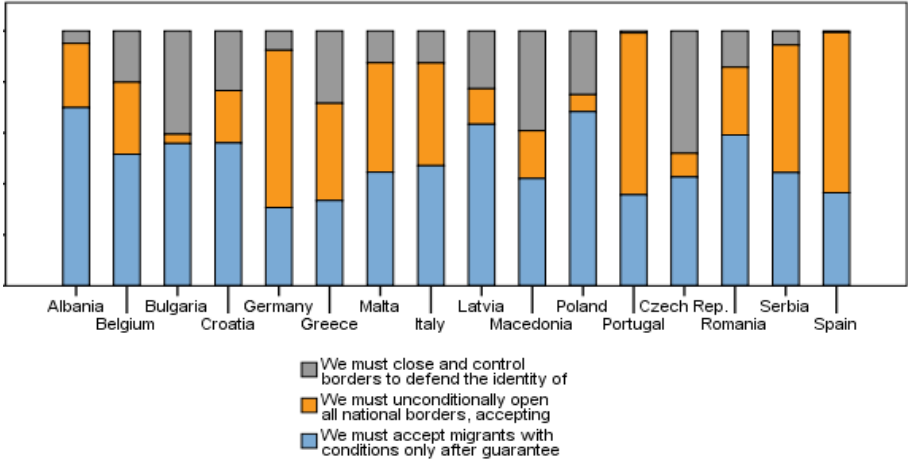
Conclusions

The results of this survey enable us to highlight some significant observations: first, migration is playing a crucial role in our democratic systems function and all of us are obligated to intervene; secondly, there is a widespread perception of a close link between organized crime and migration, but the respondents are aware that this link depends on a rights lack of migrants that could be recruited into organized crime. Just granting migrants the rights of citizenship we can fight against the exploitation and organized crime. Lastly it is important that each partner countries undertake measures to promote awareness and acceptance of migrants, to combat against the social panic and the fear surrounding migration, to improve the political strategies and create a pathway to legal migration, to fight the organized crime and to implement programs of education, knowledge and respect of "the other".

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

In September 2017 a delegation of NECME project's participants visited the The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) in Wien.

Aim of the meeting was to better know the working methodology of the Agency, its tasks toward the European Union institutions, the possibilities of co-operation with Civil Society organizations.

While the Agency has a wide aim, in spreading and promoting fundamental rights in Europe, the meeting focused on the work done in the field of migrants and minorities rights.

A specific chapter of Agency's action plan is indeed focused on rights related to migration and asylum seeking.

Considering that the Agency cannot play a direct role in shaping policies nor in interfering with national politics, it mainly provide scientific approach, evidence based proposals, statistics and studies related to the wide world of fundamental rights.

FRA collects pertinent and timely data and information; shares evidence-based insights and advice with policy and decision-makers; raises rights awareness and promotes fundamental rights through cutting edge communications; engages with a wide array of diverse stakeholders from the local to international level with targeted assistance and in depth knowledge.

Consultation and cooperation with other partners are also substantial aspects. FRA interacts with the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union; international organisations, such as the Council of Europe, the United Nations (UN) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); governments, civil society organisations, academic institutions, equality bodies and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs).

Therefore, the Agency provides to define its areas of work to ensure that its research complies with specific lacks and needs in the fundamental rights field. Other tools, which are useful to reach and condition governments, are: developing communication, multimedia and information resources based on a FRA Stakeholder Communication Framework Strategy, in order to raise awareness and bring knowledge of fundamental rights to the European citizen in general. To improve fundamental rights protection it's necessary ensure that its advice and research reaches policy makers at the right levels of government and EU institutions.

Special attention was addressed to explain the working system of the FRP, the Fundamental Rights Platform, a FRA channel for cooperation and information exchange with civil society organisations active in the field of fundamental rights at the national, grassroots, European or international level.

The FRP is a "mechanism of exchange and pooling of knowledge" created for facilitating a "structured and fruitful dialogue" amongst civil society organizations, between civil society and the FRA and between civil society organizations and other key player on human rights in the EU.

The FRP is not a body of FRA, and there is no formal "membership". Civil society organizations can register in the FRP database, in order to develop a structured relationship and exchange of information with FRA and other stakeholders.

For more information: http://fra.europa.eu

A local experience: unaccompanied minors in Palermo.
Talking with Giuseppe Mattina, deputy mayor for Social policies

European citizenship in migration era: how does this phenomenon involve unaccompanied minors in our country and in Palermo?

Most of the minors who arrive on Italian territory are unaccompanied , (9 out of 10 minors, according to UHNCR) which means that they are disoriented, have no reference point and are without recognizable context of provenience; in a word, there haven't family protection and support. Probably, they have not a certain identity and identification documents. Minors welcomed in Palermo and Province have gone from about 90 in 2013 to more than 1100 in the last months; more than 500 just in the city of Palermo. In Palermo today there are about 350 unaccompanied minors, a number that is decreasing. The decrease is due to a lower arrival of people disembarked; moreover, many of the minors who arrived earlier have become adults and therefore the number of minors has decreased.

As of 30 April 2017, number of unaccompanied foreign minors present in Italy is to 15.939. Data say that unaccompained minors are 36,8% - more than in the same period in the previous year with a difference of 93%, compared to 30th April 2015. There are 5.271 unaccompanied minors, mostly from the Egypt, Eritrea and Somalia. With reference to age, a lower presence of minors under 15 of age is confirmed. The most consistent age group includes those aged 17, more than 60%. In comparison to the same period of previous years, it should be underlined that the sum of minors close to the age of majority points out a little increase (+ 4.7%). Over 5.939 unaccompanied minors present in Italy in 2017, some 40% are in Sicily.

How the work is organized when minors without family arrive?

Normally for minors, after the landing in Palermo, a place of welcome is found. Identification process is carried out through the Palermo Police Headquarters and then they are sent to a place of first reception. According to regional laws, a first arrival in a reception structure takes a maximum of 30 + 30 days. It will be the space in which paths of inclusion, taking charge and integration of minors will start in the city of Palermo. After this step the MSNA should be moved to second level reception center, where they begin to elaborate life projects. A path is activated with every avalaible tool and

channel: school, work courses, interests and aspirations calibrated on age, personalized ideas and desires. In this phase the support of a network of social relationship is important, related to the development of more or less playful activities, from sport, to cultural interactions, to leisure. Our territory is fully equipped with human resources.

Which are the different phases of reception and integration paths?
We start with the path of school, training or job placement. Palermo was indeed among the first cities in Italy to activate paths for volunteer tutors; this experience started about two years ago and is called 'tutelage' (tutela). A first training course was recently held after a first selection of volunteer tutors . The candidates selected from the beginning of the year in the city, first considered potentially suitable for the role of Volunteer Tutor, were, in particular, 55 in number, including 47 women and 8 men. In February 2017, a first call was published by the Guarantor of childhood and by the Municipality : 89 requests were presented. The selection was carried out from a commission formed by representatives of various institutions of Palermo city. At present, tutors with delegation of the Tutelary Judge and potentially able to play the role are in number of 50.

Before the institution of the tutor, minors were entrusted to the Mayor or to the Councilor for social activities. With the advent of voluntary tutors and with Zampa law, which has clarified essential points of this intervention, a new phase really opens up in relation to the rights of migrants, especially for unaccompanied minors. Even though Palermo had started the experiment on an experimental basis, today unaccompanied foreign minors can have a tutor, a specific person who has assumed their protection: this has greatly simplified the reception and integration procedures. There are 43 minors actually taken into care.

Which are tutors' requirements, as well as the training course?
There are no fundamental requisites. Offices managing the selection make a general evaluation, without asking for specific titles. The project also involves single people. In tutelage, the tutor remains normally until minor reaches the age of majority, building up a strong affective link between them. During the initial assessment of the curricula and, subsequently, the interviews aimed at verifying the motivation and also relational skills, as well as after the information / training course, the Tutors candidates have reduced to a number of 55. After a first screening, in which the curricula

were valued, 6 candidates renounced before the interview, 18 were unsuitable for the task, 72 were admitted to the training course and 10 gave up during the course.

Could you describe how many 'fostering' families are in Palermo?
The entrusting paths called 'fostering' (affido) involve individuals and families and is different from 'tutelage'. Instead of living in community or having a tutor, minors can live in a family. To support and help them there are families avalaible to spend free time, weekends, whole days. With the family fostering, a minor, temporarily deprived of a family environment, is welcomed in a family unit different from their own, without interrupting contacts and affective relationships with his relatives, for a time that may be different according to his needs and his family. Family fostering is a legal institution, which establishes the "Right of the child to a family". In Palermo there are only 6 foster families .

What aspects could be improved in the reception system?
At the age of majority boys and gilrs must have acquired autonomy and sometimes this happen easily, but not always. We must have activated paths that allow minors, who will became quickly adults, to be autonomous. It is not always simple: we need to upgrade all the services for the new age; many of these children have difficuliet related to post-traumatic and psychological stress. It's necessary provide specific care services . Stress can derive from the journey, from the contexts that they left behind and from what happened to them. The experience of Palermo is very positive because there is a widespread welcoming spirit and many people are involved in inclusion projects and social networks. Reception system and spirit are not concentrated in a few places, there is a very strong territorial network and integration sense , especially with this innovative legal institution, 'tutelage'.

International fight against transnational crimes related to migration flows
UN commitment against smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons

Trafficking in persons became an issue of growing importance since the second half of the nineties of the twentieth century, while migratory waves were upcoming from several countries like Eastern Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America. Western governments decided therefore that migratory politics were priorities to face, because of national and international safety. The "safety" perspective made European countries adopt law measures to reduce migratory flows but improved also criminal organisations billings.

To fight the increasing lucrative trades of criminal organizations connected to trafficking human beings business, the United Nations approved, in 2000, the "Convention against transnational organized crime" together with the "Protocol to prevent, remove and punish tafficking in persons, especially women and children" (trafficking in persons) and the "Protocol to combat the trafficking of migrants by earth, by sea and by air" (Smuggling of migrants). These documents give detailed and exhaustive definitions of the terms *trafficking in persons* and *smuggling of migrants*. As underlined in the first protocol, art. 3, *trafficking in human beings* is a transnational crime type which includes recruitment, transfer and reception of people by using violence or threat or even by acting other forms of coercion like the abduction, fraud, deception; moreover taking advantage of vulnerability of migrant victims and abusing of power against those who, for expectation of money or other fictitious advantages, will be exploited. Exploitation is related not only to prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation, but also to the outline of forced labor, slavery and similar patterns, and the removal of organs.

Smuggling of migrants, as presented in the relative Protocol to art. 3, occurs, on the other hand, in creating conditions for an illegal entry in a State without documents or with false documents, of a someone who is not a

citizen or permanent resident in that place, with the assumption of personal heavy economic commitment . It is clear that, if the ultimate purpose of trafficking in persons is to reach illegal markets exploiting the migrant in the destination countries, the smuggling of migrants is finalized to the illegal entry into a State different from the one of provenance. In fact, the first Protocol aims to the protection of the human person and his dignity, while the second document focus on migratory flows - even if throughout the frame of the protection of the migrant. Therefore, it is full of significant consequences to make a comparison between two different kinds of crimes: trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.

Differences regard length and kind of relation with criminal organizations.

In the first case, criminal groups, which earn money by managing migrants' transfers from their country of origin to another, are aware that they will obtain migrants decision to transfer themselves with advantage promises or using psychological or physical violence. Trafficking in persons refers to the concept, indeed, that destination states need slaves or people who will be exploited without a real contribution of their will. And the victims – most of all women and children - are recruited by the traffickers by using of violence, blackmail and deception, in order to exploit them in the market of sex, undeclared work and slavery.

Migrants moving to another country under the threat of violence or because they live a vulnerable condition have to pay for the transfer, contract a very high debt; to return the loan the migrant will be forced to work in conditions of slavery and extreme exploitation.

In the case of smuggling of migrants, on the other side, we note that the victims make always a voluntary choice and contact criminal gangs to handle the transfer to another state with false or without documents. The goal is only the transfer, not the exploitation of the victim tout court: it could be a next step for several reasons, but it is not the typical pattern of crime. The relationship between migrant and traffickers ends when the required "services" are completed, once they arrive at the final place. Anyhow, the line separating *trafficking in persons* and *trafficking in migrants* is very frail:

the two types of crimes can be different moments in a single criminal outline. In both cases, the traffickers move people within the same state or from one country to another or from one continent to another. As in the case of illegal immigration, the immigrant becomes subordinate to the criminal organization that manages the illegal transport because of the debt contracted for the transfer. A person thus becomes an object of exploitation in two different phases: during the journey and once arrived at the destination. Even in the case of trafficking in persons, there is a debt to be paid for the transport service and illegal entry into another state; but once the victims arrive at their final destination, the real purpose, exploitation in the illegal markets, becomes prevalent.

A local experience: integration and cultural exchange with refugees in Amarante

Since 2016, the small city of Amarante hosted a few refugees.

Aventura Marão Cube has been supporting the integration of refugees at local level through the activities held at Casa da Juventude de Amarante, the youth center that it is managing since 2009.

Big role was played by volunteers of the European Voluntary Service, who were already implementing language courses for locals and who involved refugees in the activities. The presence of refugees from Eritrea turned into a real cultural and experiential exchange when they run a workshop to share their personal stories with the community during the Youth Exchange "TOUCH".

In June 2017, at Casa da Juventude we held "MOUNTAINS: what's behind our fears" another Youth Exchange, organised by Equação Crl, local partner of AMC, that promoted integration of refugees, development cooperation and healthy lifestyles among youngsters and local community. Mainly through outdoor/nature activities and forum theatre, the participants from 6 program countries (Portugal, Bulgaria, Italy, France, Greece and United Kingdom) raised awareness about this topic involving performances in the youth center and in schools, in close interaction with Amarante local population.

This year, AMC joined SPEAK, which is a linguistic and cultural program built to bring people closer together - a crowdsourcing language and culture exchange between migrants and locals that breaks barriers, promotes multilingualism, equality and democratizes language learning. Throughout this learning process, participants get to know other people, learn and explore common interests, break prejudices, misunderstandings and even promote comprehension as well as cooperation.

This program had positives responses in Portugal, where it was created and now it is spreading in other EU cities for example Madrid, Berlin, Turin.