

DIVPOL: Diversity in political parties' organisation and representation

January 2013-June 2014

GRITIM-UPF International Project: **DIVPOL – Diversity in political parties' programmes, organisation and representation**

This 18-months European project is funded by the European fund for the Integration of third-country nationals.

Project overview:

The overall objective of the project is to initiate, assess, support and evaluate diversity development processes with regard to ethnic diversity in major political parties of member states. The project both raises awareness and develops practical tools to promote diversity development in parties, particularly at the national level, and improve the chances of participation for non-nationals and immigrants in such parties. Parties, as organisations holding legislative and governing powers and central agents of societal developments, carry responsibility to incorporate diversity. They also have a key influence on this development in all areas of society of the member states. Improving participation opportunities for non-nationals and immigrants in party politics is an essential element for increasing their influence in decision-making processes and as agents in the democratic system.

The objective will be achieved by means of a transnational comparison of participation opportunities and assessment of party political diversity and the development of specific recommendations and indicators to enhance diversity in parties. Previous work from the Migration Policy Group in Brussels, especially its benchmarking tool to assess diversity in political parties, will contribute to the overall methodology of the project and to strengthen the European dimension.

It directly involves major political parties in each country, who will contribute to the elaboration and implementation of the internal survey, which will be discussed in national workshops. It also associates target groups such as migrant organisations and national stakeholders.

The research consortium:

The project involves universities, research centre and NGOs in seven countries. It is coordinated by the **CJD (Christliches Jugenddorfwerk Deutschlands) at Eutin and Hamburg**, Germany and associates the following partners:

- ACIDI, Lisbon, Portugal
- IPRS Psychoanalytic Institute for Social Research, Rome, Italy
- Lazarski University, Warsaw, Poland
- Migration Policy Group, Brussels, Belgium

- Stockholm University, Sweden
- The Integration Centre, Dublin, Ireland
- Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain

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Web of CJD dedicated to DivPol: <http://www.cjd-eutin.eu/149.0.html?&L=2>