



# EFFECTIVE INTEGRATION THROUGH PARTICIPATION

2015 to 2020

# AIMS OF THE CITY OF GRAZ

The city of Graz recognizes cultural and social diversity as a strength and at the same time a major challenge for urban space. The aims of social cohesion through integration will be achieved by taking key steps towards

- Ensuring equal opportunities by eliminating discrimination and inequalities.
- Facilitating general accessibility to all educational opportunities.
- Interlinking educational and public employment policies.
- Empowering migrants in respect of their individual potential.
- Encouraging and promoting participation of migrants on all levels.

As a UN City of Human Rights, Graz is dedicated to actively fighting all forms of discrimination and racism.

# VISION FOR GRAZ

Effective integration through participation means we all affect integration and are therefore part of the integration process. We all decide on a daily basis, in which way we PARTICIPATE and CONTRIBUTE to peaceful coexistence and social cohesion. All citizens of Graz speak with one voice, clearly expressing their concerns and expectations and share a common urban identity. That is effective integration through participation!



# LANGUAGES

## AFFECT

## INTEGRATION

Languages contribute to the sense of identity and symbolize a shared identity. This is why language skills are a key factor in a successful integration process. Not only is language an important means of communication in our everyday relations, but also a central resource in the field of education and integration into the labor market.

**The Integration Office of the city of Graz therefore supports various language learning measures and interventions, especially those aimed at children and young adults.**

# RIGHTS & OBLIGATIONS

## AFFECT

## INTEGRATION

Living in Graz involves a great number of rights and opportunities and as well obligations and responsibilities. Peaceful and harmonious coexistence is a responsibility we all share. Its key requirements are mutual esteem and respect based on values conforming to valid legislation .

**The Integration Office of the city of Graz therefore supports measures aimed at facilitating access to information on the various aspects of living in Graz through different formats and translated into different languages.**





# VALUES & CULTURE AFFECT INTEGRATION

As a UN City of Human Rights, Graz stands for non-discriminatory and non-violent communication and interaction among its citizens. Common values such as democracy, freedom of expression, and gender equality form a strong, common foundation for our society. We are all called upon to create and promote awareness of these values and live them on a daily basis.

**The Integration Office of the city of Graz therefore supports measures and activities aimed at promoting non-violent coexistence. The Integration Office takes a strong stand against any form of discrimination, supports initiatives promoting participation, and at the same time calls for shared responsibility.**

# INTERFAITH DIALOG AFFECTS INTEGRATION

Interfaith dialogue aims at promoting mutual understanding, building trust, respect and recognition as well as overcoming prejudices and fears concerning the different religions. Getting to know each other and experiencing beliefs, values and practices of other religions promotes and affects understanding and peaceful co-existence.

**The Integration Office of the city of Graz therefore supports measures and activities aimed at promoting interfaith dialogue especially those focusing on active prevention of extremism including deradicalization.**





# IDENTIFYING WITH A WELCO- MING CULTURE & RECOGNITION AFFECT INTEGRATION

Along with intercultural and interfaith dialogue we need further specific measures which aim at promoting and maintaining solidarity and commitment towards a common identity.

Initiatives should be taken with, and for, children and young adults to promote and support their general openness, curiosity, respect and acceptance.

**The Integration Office of the city of Graz therefore supports measures and activities aimed at facilitating a welcoming culture full of recognition.**

The Integration Strategy of the city of Graz can be found in full at: [www.graz.at/integrationsstrategie](http://www.graz.at/integrationsstrategie)



# WE AFFECT INTEGRATION

## The Integration Office of the city of Graz

- Networks between organizations
- Offers activities within and outside the city administration.
- Provides counseling services, support, coordination and information concerning inclusive projects.
- Organizes stimulating seminars, conferences and meetings, further training measures and (inter-) cultural events.
- Promotes and supports intercultural openings as a key transversal issue on the agenda of the entire city administration.
- Handles grant applications

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