• Pluralistic NGO (58 organisations in 23 European countries)
• Values: Non-discrimination, Human rights, Social inclusion etc.
• Represent, advocate for the rights and interest of all types of families
• Monitor EU initiatives, build the capacity of COFACE network
• Funded under EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation
The role of education in building inclusive societies

- EDUCATION is a FAMILY PROJECT
- PARENTS/GRANDPARENTS, COMMUNITY SOCIAL STRUCTURES and SCHOOLS ARE EQUALLY IMPORTANT for CHILDREN to REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL
- FAMILIES NEED SUPPORT

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION REQUIRES SYSTEMS TO ADAPT TO THE NEEDS OF EACH CHILD AND FAMILY, WITH QUALITY RESOURCES:

- HOLISTIC, COMPREHENSIVE and RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH
- Putting the CHILD AT THE CENTRE
- From CHILDCARE to UNIVERSITY
- INCLUDING EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
Our actions towards migrant children and families

We address education with a holistic, two-generations approach including informal education, parental support and Early Child Education and Care with actions towards:

- The **COMMUNITY** -> mutual help and solidarity
- **CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS**
  -> language, health sexual and global citizenship,
  -> play and entertainment,
  -> psychological/social support
  -> prevention/response to bullying
- **PARENTS**
  -> adult education
  -> legal advice
  -> family mediation
  -> psychological, social and peer support
  -> Guidance on public resources
- **SCHOOL PROFESSIONALS**
  -> developing their intercultural competences

**POLICY BRIEF // MIGRATION**

**COFACE MEMBERS IN ACTION**
**TO SUPPORT INCLUSION OF MIGRANT FAMILIES**

BE, BG, EL, ES, FI

**A BETTER SOCIETY FOR ALL FAMILIES**
Belgium: La Ligue des Familles

Since March 2017, the Ligue des Familles and Convivial have been offering Belgians and long-time resident citizens the possibility to meet refugees living in their neighborhood. These citizens can offer various services according to their availability, their skills, their desires, respecting the needs and wishes of refugees.

THE STEPS TO BECOME A SOLIDAR NEIGHBOUR:
1. INFORMATION SESSION
2. TRAINING
3. MATCHINGS
4. FIRST MEETING
5. THE RELATIONSHIP
6. THE FOLLOW UP
7. EVALUATION MEETINGS
8. SUPERVISIONS
9. BUILDING COMMUNITY

- In order to state and commit to principles and values, the neighbours sign the charter of solidar neighbours

For more info: https://voisinssolidaires.be/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jfn8MahtyF8

A BETTER SOCIETY FOR ALL FAMILIES
Belgium: La Ligue des Familles

in cooperation with

DASPA classes
In more than 20 schools in the Walloon Region, are set up DASPA (reception and schooling) classes for newly arrived students.

They ensure an intermediate step before a "ordinary" schooling: these transition classes are intended to ensure "reception, orientation and optimal insertion "of newly arrived students in the French-speaking Belgian education system.

They propose school support adapted to the student profile, which incorporates the difficulties related to language, other disciplines and school culture in general.

La Ligue des Familles and the Belgian Red Cross also organise non-formal education activities in primary schools about global citizenship focusing on migrant and refugee challenges.
Spain: Asociacion Salud y Familia

The organisation focuses on health and wellbeing of all families and support intercultural relations.

85% users with migrant origines

Different services:
- family planning
- pregnancy counselling
- law counselling
- psychological counselling

Cultural mediators creating programmes to enhance participation in society helping in the communication with other associations and professionals

http://www.saludyfamilia.es/es
The Program "Mothers between two cultures" in active collaboration with public hospitals in Catalonia, offers group activities of intercultural education aimed at immigrant mothers from different backgrounds with children under three years of age.

Peer support and empowerment

The objective is to improve the coverage of unmet needs in the field of prevention and promotion of maternal and child health, strengthening maternal skills and functional social support networks for mothers.

Guidance on public resources, family planning, inclusive education, employment, social assistance, cultural activities, and health education.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leyA5E6vVKs
https://madresentredosculturas.es/
Spain: Union Asociaciones Familiares (UNAF)

22 organisations working on well-being of families with an inclusive perspective from different areas: health, education, gender equality, children, elderly people, disability...

Work with migrant families:
- family mediation
- mediation between parents and teenagers
- counselling for reconstituted families
- mediation and conflict resolution/awareness in schools
- sexual education (with HR perspective) promotion of sexual health and prevention of female genital mutilations, sexual and reproductive rights, right to integrity, pleasure and well-being
  -> **Awareness-raising workshops** for professionals and migrant communities, awareness raising **events, specialised materials, communications activities, networking** with civil society and public authorities

Family Federation of Finland: Vaestoliitto

- **Welcome Guide** for newly arrived families on trust, participation, supporting education, discrimination, relationship building, homework and school glossary, and promotion of healthy lifestyles
- **Create cooperation between school and home life**: social network to facilitate migrant parents' participation in democratic school cultures and child development
- **Adult education**
- **Language training programmes**
- **Centre for Multicultural Expertise**: psychological challenges concerning migrants' family life, childrearing, parenthood and interaction with society
  - Offers consultation and advise via telephone, peer groups, encourage fathers' participation in upbringing their children
- **Peer groups**: 7 languages on immigration experience and changing parenthood, rearing a child in Finland, supporting bilingualism and schooling, family dynamics arising with migration.

https://www.vaestoliitto.fi/in_english/
Bulgaria: Centre of Women's Studies and Policies (CWSP)

Organisation addressing women's issues and capacity building for gender equality

**Equal Space Erasmus+** on intersectionality between gender and diversity in adult education to train community educators and facilitator to work on educational challenges of migrants, refugees and minority women

**Research** on state of play of involvement of migrant/refugee women in national education programmes

[http://equalspace.eu/](http://equalspace.eu/)

Volunteers giving **training and education** to migrants in reception structures: language learning, cooking, arts, music and theatre

Volunteers organising **play and entertainment for children and adolescents**: language, science, art, school preparatory courses

After getting status: **Centre for Integration of Refugees and Migrants** giving services to facilitate integration (psycho-social support, language, social policies, home and employment assistance...
Family and childcare centre of Greece (KMOP)

https://www.kmop.gr/

**Mission:** empowerment and human development, in migration focus on health and well-being, integration and discrimination

**Vitality intervention Erasmus+ project** integrates health education in schools and communities of newly arrived migrants and long-term unintegrated migrants. Partners from Greece, Italy, Germany, Austria, Denmark

**Objectives:**
- Promoting and improving the health migrants
- Providing information on healthy lifestyle
- Preventing the importation of infectious diseases
- Informing migrants about the health system of the host country
- Confidence to make use of the existing health system

Information about the health system through ready-to-use health learning units for communities and educators
**E-COURSE** Erasmus+ Project Enhancing the Participation and Learning Performance of Migrant and Refugee Children in Primary School Education.

**General objective:** enhance the participation and learning performance of newly arrived third country national children in primary schools in Greece, Germany, Italy, France and Cyprus. **Specific Objectives:**
- Enhance the professional development of teachers in dealing with diversity in classrooms
- Support schools to facilitate inclusion and success of newly arrived migrant and refugee students, thus contributing to the tackling of early school leaving (ESL)
- Support and enhance the performance of newly-arrived migrant and refugee students in primary schools
- Strengthen collaboration among all members of the school community (school leaders, teachers and non-teaching staff, learners, parents/families).

**Outputs:**
- Learning modules for teachers
- Pilot of School Support Platform
- Methodology for the elaboration of school policies on diversity
General objective: Strengthen the successful participation of newly arrived third-country national children in education and to contribute to the combatting of discrimination against third-country national children in the educational environment in Greece, Italy & Spain, and the EU in general.

Outputs:
- Policies and practices regarding the inclusion of TCN children in education: the case of Greece, Italy and Spain
- Comparative findings regarding the inclusion of TCN children in education from Greece, Italy and Spain
- IntegratEd’s Educational Support Model
- Mentors’ application and selection procedure guide / general guide
- Information booklets on the Greek, Italian and Spanish education systems
- Guide on developing and implementing diversity school policies and action plans
- Policy brief on mainstreaming the educational support model for TCN children

https://www.integrated-project.eu
MEDIS Mediterranean Inclusive Schools Programme

Erasmus+: Spain, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Bulgaria

Objective: find pedagogical proposals to avoid social exclusion

Capacity building for managing diversity through inclusive methodologies and pedagogical approaches, awareness raising and promotion of diversity

90 schools from the 6 Mediterranean countries will implement into their structure the MEDIS inclusive programme facilitating the integration of children coming from different cultural and language backgrounds

MOOCS MEDIS based on good practices of partners

https://medisinclusiveschools.eu
Education impacts social capital

- Vulnerable children can experience **DISCRIMINATION** including bullying, social isolation and ostracism

- This can cause depressive feelings, loneliness, difficulties with social inclusion, physical and psychological difficulties, and higher drop-out rates, early school leaving, **ALL OF WHICH AFFECTS THEIR INCLUSION IN SOCIETY LATER IN LIFE**

- Education can be a **TOOL FOR EQUALITY** by fostering the **DEMOCRATIC VALUES, ATTITUDES, SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE** needed to interact in diverse environments

- **INCLUSION** of vulnerable children and families not only promotes **STRONGER MENTAL-HEALTH and WELL-BEING**, but also greater **PRODUCTIVITY** in building and contributing to inclusive communities

- To achieve inclusion, the **CROSS-SECTIONAL** approach bridging gaps in social-health, education, migration, and family policy initiatives must be strengthen
Some policy recommendations

EU and MS should promote inclusive education pathways for migrant children including these key actions:

- A legislative framework ensuring the same right to education to native and migrant children
- Training to school professionals in teaching and managing diversity
- Assessment of knowledge and needs of migrant children at their arrival
- Include citizenship education, non-formal education and peer learning in school curricula
- Involve and include both students and parents
- Build bridges between migrant families and the local community
- Involve all relevant stakeholders: create and strengthen networks of professionals (teachers, administration, social workers, psychologists, nurses, child protection officers, and cultural mediators, civil society and youth organisation)
Valuing diversity

- Person-centred / holistic approach
- Networking
- Partnership
- Empowerment
- Peer-support
- Human rights awareness and education

Are fundamental tools to value diversity while promoting equality in rights and dignity

This needs political will and investment at all administrative level to make inclusive education pathways (and societies) a reality

All actors can play a role to make this happen
Find out more and join the conversation!

POLICY BRIEF // MIGRATION

COFACE MEMBERS IN ACTION TO SUPPORT INCLUSION OF MIGRANT FAMILIES

BUILDING INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES
FIRST STEPS TO BRIDGING THE GAPS BETWEEN FAMILY, EDUCATION AND MIGRATION POLICIES

Shaping
a healthy environment fit for children
Helsinki, 3-4 October 2019

#environment4children BETTER SOCIETY FOR ALL FAMILIES

A BETTER SOCIETY FOR ALL FAMILIES
COFACE Families Europe is supported by the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI)