EPIC-UP POLICY LAB | ONLINE

Emergency mechanisms for migrant integration

30 September | 9.30 am – 01.15 pm CEST

We are pleased to invite you to the **first EPIC-UP Policy Lab**, taking place online on **30 September 2025**, focused on **emergency mechanisms for migrant integration**. You can register now here.

Organised by KMOP with the support of the European Association for Innovation in Local Development (AEIDL) and the European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA), this session will bring together stakeholders from across Europe to explore how local and national systems can better prepare for and respond to migration-related crises.

The event will build on recent desk research and input from the **EPIC-UP Communities of Practice (CoPs)**, providing a space for learning, co-creation, and the development of actionable policy recommendations.

The policy lab will feature expert presentations, collaborative breakout sessions, and discussions aimed at identifying concrete solutions that can be shared across the EPIC-UP partnership and beyond.

EPIC-UP is an initiative funded by the AMIF programme of the European Union (EU) which aims to improve migrants' integration and inclusion at local level by designing an enhanced model of multi-actor collaboration. The project is coordinated by ALDA and brings together 12 partner organisations and 13 associated partners from 8 different EU countries.

Agenda:

Time (CEST)	Session
09.30 – 09.45	**Welcome and introduction** Overview of EPIC-UP project and WP5. Objectives of the Policy Lab and expected outcomes.
09.45 – 10.00	**State of the art: emergency mechanisms** Short presentation of the main insights emerged from EPIC-UP desk research (KMOP) covering current emergency mechanisms for migrant integration, gaps and challenges identified in desk research and promising practices from different EU contexts. • Georgia Alexandrou, Researcher & Trainer, KMOP - Social Action and Innovation Centre
10.00 – 11.00	**Experts' insights** Contributions from three invited speakers exploring innovative approaches and key challenges in emergency mechanisms. ***From Unpreparedness to Ultra-Conformity: How One-Size-Fits-All European Mandates Hinder Antifragility*** • Nikos Alexiou, Monitoring and Evaluation Expert working as a consultant to the Greek Ministry of Migration & Asylum ***Building Inclusive Emergency Systems: Addressing the Needs of Migrant Victims of Crime*** • Efthymis Antonopoulos, Policy and Advocacy lead at Victim Support Europe ***Emergency Mechanisms in Spain: Successes, Lessons and Future Challenges*** • Valeria Méndez de Vigo, Advocacy and Partnerships Department at CONVIVE Fundación Cepaim
11.00 – 11.15	***Break***
11.15 – 12.15	**Breakout discussions** Participants split into group discussions, each with a facilitator and rapporteur and go around three guiding questions: *Round 1: Analyse existing policies and identify gaps.* *Round 2: Explore potential solutions and best practices.* *Round 3: Prioritise actionable recommendations.*
12.15 – 12.30	***Break***
12.30 – 13.00	**Plenary feedback and co-creation** Each group's rapporteur presents key findings. Collective discussion on cross-cutting recommendations.

13.00 – 13.15 Closing remarks and next steps

Summary of key takeaways and invitation to the in-person Policy Lab.

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