

# Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD)

## Brussels Office

Rue Joseph II, 166 ▪ B – 1000 Brüssel

ekd.bruessel@ekd.be

### **Good Practice**

#### **„Intercultural Week”**

#### **attached to the statement for the consultation process on the preparation of the “White Paper on intercultural dialogue” of the Council of Europe**

##### **1. Title**

Die Interkulturelle Woche - Woche der ausländischen Mitbürger / Intercultural Week

##### **2. Organiser(s) of the project (association, institution, public body, school etc)**

German Bishops' Conference (catholic), Evangelical Church of Germany (EKD) and Greek-Orthodox Metropolis.

The initiative is supported by labour unions, charity organisations, local authorities, advisory boards for foreigners, appointees for foreigners and German-international initiative groups.

Adresse: Ökumenischer Vorbereitungsausschuss zur Interkulturellen Woche / Woche der ausländischen Mitbürger

Postfach 16 06 46

D-60069 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Ruf 0049/ 69 / 23 06 05

Fax 0049/ 69 / 23 06 50

eMail [info@interkulturellewoche.de](mailto:info@interkulturellewoche.de)

[www.interkulturellewoche.de](http://www.interkulturellewoche.de)

##### **3. Themes addressed by the project:**

e.g., solidarity between the ethnical, social and religious majorities and minorities, interreligious dialogue, equality, fight against stereotypes, racism and exclusion, integration, development of participative citizenship, cultural diversity, raising awareness of religious practices, human rights

##### **4. Target groups (beneficiaries):**

The general public ( e.g. church members, students and pupils, teachers)

##### **5. Intervention level (international, national, local), geographic area:**

Die Interkulturelle Woche – The Intercultural Week is a yearly nationwide initiative with 3000 local events in 200 cities and one national opening session.

##### **6. Objectives:**

The aim of the Intercultural Week is advocacy for improved basic political and judicial conditions of intercultural life together in Germany. Moreover, personal encounters as well as the contact to member of other cultures shall help to develop an understanding for each other and contribute to the decrease of prejudices. Thus, informative meetings are supplemented by

festivities and personal encounters, theatre and movie events as well as readings by various artists.

**7. Start and end date :**

one week in September each year (in some cities either 2 weeks)

**8. Description of activities** (participants, activities):

- “Liturgical hospitality”: Common celebration of religious feasts, e.g. Thanksgiving; multireligious prayers
- “Getting to know each other”, e.g. Day of the Open Mosque, meetings for women, language courses
- Educational activities, e.g. interreligious quiz for pupils at schools
- Publications, e.g. feasts of the World
- Services for migrants, e.g. support in the interaction with public authorities

**9. Outcomes** (reports, publications, exhibitions, press releases etc):

Booklets (containing good practices), posters, brochures, website (see under “2. Organisers”), coverage in the German media

**10. Budget and financial sources**

see under “2. Organisers”.

**11. Overall project results, evaluation**

In the 32 years since the first Intercultural Week in 1975 the initiative has made an important contribution to the integration of migrants and to the general improvement of the intercultural life together in Germany.

**12. Follow-up** (planned or already realised)

There is a permanent follow-up in order to plan and improve the Intercultural Week in the following year.

**13. Why is this project regarded as an “example of good practice”?**

There is no other initiative in Germany that has united for such a long time such a wide variety of so many local projects in the field of integration and intercultural dialogue.