

Migration, the media and the message

Migrants using media to turn around the immigration debate

MIGRANTS AND THE MEDIA EUROPEAN 2-DAY CONFERENCE UNIVERSITY OF EAST LONDON, 29-30 MARCH 2010

The 'Migrants and the Media Project' (MMP) and the 'Centre for Research on Migration, Refugees and Belonging' (CMRB) at the 'University of East London' (UEL) are organising a conference for groups involved in media and cultural activities which promote a positive engagement with the issue of migration.

MMP is a partnership of organisations working in five European countries – Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Spain and the UK. Each of the partners has been working on projects which use a range of media, communication and 'cultural' strategies to engage with issues concerning the lives of migrants in Europe, with the intention of increasing awareness for change in the realm of public perception and policy. UEL is one of the UK's most diverse and fastest growing universities with more than 20,000 students from 120 countries worldwide.

The European conference will be an opportunity for others working on similar projects to showcase their work and to join in discussion about the value of these activities, both intrinsically as creative work, and as a contribution to process aimed at bringing about change in public perceptions and policy.

The conference will offer space to selected projects to present aspects of their work to participants and to discuss the ideas behind it and what they are hoping to achieve.

There is no charge for participation, but registration in advance is essential. If you would like to showcase/exhibit your work, please provide a synopsis of what you are doing and what you hope to offer the conference.

Contributors to plenary sessions will include Don Flynn, Migrants Rights Network, (UK), Nazek Ramadan, (UK), Aine O'Brien, FOMACS, (Ireland), Mica Nava, UEL, (UK), and speakers from other European organisations.

Breakout workshops will include presentations and discussion of the work of:

- FOMACS (Ireland)'s digital video-making and radio-journalism
- CEPAIM (Spain)'s 'La Ruta Prometida' exhibition
- Menedek (Hungary)'s poster campaign
- Migrant Resource Centre (UK)'s 'New Londoners' journalism project
- 'Playback Theatre' (UK)
- CRWI (Greece) on women and the media

This conference will be of interest to:

- Writers, journalists, dramatists, dance and music performers, artists, photographers, video and audio producers working on issues concerning migration and migrants;
- Representatives of migrant communities involved in media or cultural activities and advocacy in support of the rights of migrants;
- People involved in education, particularly on subjects which concern equality, human rights, social justice and citizenship.

The MMP European conference is funded by the European Programme on Integration and Migration (EPIM) and with support from UEL.

**The Conference will take place at:
University of East London (UEL)
Docklands campus
University Way
East building
London E16 2RD
Nearest station: DLR stop: Cyprus**

For map and directions:

<http://local.google.co.uk/maps?q=E16+2RD&hl=en&ie=UTF8&hq=&hnear=London+E16+2RD,+United+Kingdom&ll=51.508342,0.064781&spn=0.005729,0.01296&z=16&iwloc=A>

To register, please complete the form overleaf and return to Media and Policy at Migrants Resource Centre: empowerment@migrants.org.uk or fax to: 020 7931 8187 by **5th March 2010**.