



## PRESS RELEASE

### Local authorities from eight countries shortlisted for the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award 2024

**28 March 2024 – almost 70 regions, towns and cities from across the European Union applied for the third edition of the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award, with 15 of them making it to the final round. They are now in the running to take home one of the nine Awards.**

The [Award](#) is now in its third year and has again captured the interest and imagination of local authorities working to build a more equal European Union. The applicants, from 13 countries, have showcased their policies, plans and initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion in their communities.

**European Commissioner for Equality Helena Dalli** said *“The European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award provides recognition and visibility to the work of local authorities to create safe and inclusive spaces ensuring belonging and participation. This serves as a source of richness and innovation in Europe and must inspire others. Ultimately, the Union of Equality goals and benefits must reach people at the town or city and regional levels where they live, work, and enjoy their leisure time.”*

The 15 finalists come from eight European countries: Croatia; Italy; Greece; Poland; Portugal; Slovenia; Spain and Sweden.

The shortlisted candidates will go through a **final round of evaluation** to claim Gold, Silver and Bronze awards in three categories:

- Local authorities with more than 50,000 inhabitants
- Local authorities with less than 50,000 inhabitants
- Local authorities enabling safe towns, cities and regions for women in all their diversity, by addressing violence against women.

Follow the [link](#) to view the list of the shortlisted candidates.

The winners for this year’s Award will be announced at an event hosted by Commissioner Dalli in Brussels **on 25 April 2024**. The event will also open European Diversity Month 2024 which takes place in May.

#### **About the #DiversityCapitals Competition**

The Award recognises the work done by cities, towns, or regions in the European Union to promote inclusion and create discrimination-free societies.

The competition is a chance for local authorities to showcase policies and initiatives that create more diverse and inclusive spaces for their citizens.

It covers initiatives that promote diversity and inclusion in terms of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age and LGBTIQ equality as well as intersectionality, the interconnected relationship of different forms of social categorisation.

Read our [media backgrounder](#) to learn more about the Award and how it works. [Click here](#) to access the media center.

### **Media Contact**

For media enquiries or if you'd like to receive our news releases around the Award, please write to: [media@eudiversity2024.eu](mailto:media@eudiversity2024.eu)