

'EMPOWERING PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT: HATE SPEECH, VIOLENCE AND RACISM- TRAINING ON DIGITAL SKILLS AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION' (GA 101144500)



WP4: INITIATIVES TO FIGHT AFROPHOBIA, XENOPHOBIA AND HATE SPEECH

Policy Brief 1: What does research say? Insights from Greece

AFROEQUALITY is an initiative that aims to strengthen members of African communities in Greece, Italy, and Spain through research, empowerment, and dissemination activities. The project focuses on investigating the culture and integration of African communities in these countries, addressing Afrophobia and discrimination, promoting gender mainstreaming and combating structural racism.

Project objectives

- To investigate the representation of people of African descent in the media in Greece, Italy and Spain through desk and primary research
- To empower people of African descent in participating countries through social inclusion activities and an empowerment app, which will enable to increase and promote their cultural background, increasing awareness.
- To train 180 people of African descent in total. The training will cover cultural awareness, digital citizenship, social inclusion and gender equality mainstreaming



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Afroequality Research: Key Findings

- Racism and Afrophobia emerge in the context of: a) lack of visibility and scarcity of data about the Afrodiaspora b) institutional racism c) challenges with employment.
- Barriers in accessing education, housing and health services, spaces where institutional racism is still prevalent
- Low numbers of hate and racial crime-reporting require continuous development of safe reporting mechanisms and victim support services
- Stereotypical narratives about race, ethnic origin and the Afrodiaspora (especially the exoticization and objectification of Afrodiasporic women) are still prevalent in news media and pop culture and in online discourse
- Afrodiasporic people are compelled to choose precarious jobs, where issues of work and sexual harassment, racist attitudes and attacks become even more frequent
- Acceptance of banal and everyday racism that Black people adapt to as an unavoidable everyday condition, sustains a culture of trauma

There is a need to:

- Accelerate and simplify access to legal status and nationality for Afrodiasporic youth and long-term residents.
- Also to combat employment exclusion in Greece via introducing accessible regularisation pathways for workers, strengthening anti-discrimination enforcement and supporting Afro-descendant workers' rights
- Incorporate courses about black history and colonialism into school and university curricula and educators to be taught ways of preventing discrimination at school



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AFROEQUALITY ROADMAP

Promoting diasporic thinking

Addressing Discrimination and Rebuilding Trust

Governments to ensure that laws against racism are in place and effectively implemented. Truth commissions, public apologies, and reparations programs to recognize historical harms



Political Representation and Institutional Inclusion

Political parties and institutions to diversify their ranks. Support for autonomy and resources for Afrodiaporic candidates to advocate effectively for their communities



Collaborating with Afrodiaspora in effective policy making

Drawing on lived experiences, legal analysis, and best practices to promote inclusive, intersectional, and transformative approaches to governance



Promoting Education & Civic literacy

Enrich educational curricula to include the histories and experiences of Afrodiasporas

Strengthening Community-Based Organizations

Promote leadership development within communities. Create mentorship programs, fellowships, and training institutes focused on civic leadership



International Cooperation and Transnational Solidarity

Conferences, cultural festivals and online forums to bring together Afrodiasporic communities and leaders and strengthen global advocacy efforts



Digital Inclusion and Innovation

Platforms and governments must implement policies to prevent and respond to digital harassment. Develop digital platforms that amplify Afrodiasporic voices and facilitate civic participation



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About the AFROEQUALITY Project

The AFROEQUALITY project is an initiative led by the National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, that brings together a consortium of partners including CONVERGENCE Non-profit (SYGKLISI AMKE), CESIE ETS, Instrategies and SCI Hellas. It is co-funded by the EU's Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV). Together, we are working to raise awareness, strengthen inclusion, and shape future policies.

 Discover more on our website: <https://afroequality.eu>

and read our Project Deliverables here

Follow our updates on Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn, and join the conversation with #Afroequality.

#EndRacism #Inclusion #Empowerment #EqualityForAll #CERV #ResearchForChange #Collaboration



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