FINAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

THEORY OF CHANGE PROJECT

THURSDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2026 09:00-13:00 (EET)	ATHENS & ONLINE Athenaeum Eridanus Luxury Hotel, Athens, Greece | Zoom Meeting Event Registration Link

Background and rationale

Across Europe, migrant and refugee children may encounter language barriers, unequal access to educational opportunities and limited opportunities to participate in decisions affecting their lives. Effective responses require more than individual activities; they depend on inclusive educational practice, collaboration with families, capable frontline services and dialogue with public authorities.

The EU co-funded Theory of Change (ToC) project has brought together organizations across Europe to apply language learning, critical thinking, rhetoric speech and participatory educational approaches. Its final conference offers a space to examine lessons from implementation, share transferable practices and connect practical experience with policy development.

Conference objectives

01. Present the principal achievements, practical tools and lessons learned from the ToC project.
02. Exchange experiences and evidence on education, language learning, participation and social inclusion.
03. Discuss barriers encountered in practice and consider implications for institutions and public policy.
04. Strengthen dialogue and prospective cooperation between AMIF initiatives, public authorities and civil society.
05. Identify opportunities for transferability, continued use and lasting impact of project results.

Participating stakeholders

Public authorities and policymakers; DG HOME Project Officers; AMIF sister projects; civil society organizations; educators and frontline professionals; project partners and other actors in migration, integration, education and social inclusion.

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Key themes

01 Inclusive Integration in Practice

Inclusive education, language acquisition, individually tailored support and examples of effective practice across diverse national and institutional settings.

02 From Practice to Policy

Practical challenges experienced by NGOs and professionals; institutional barriers; cooperation between civil society, funders and public authorities.

03 Participation, Voice and Empowerment

Rhetoric speech games, innovative educational methodologies, child participation, critical thinking and meaningful empowerment.

Format and methodology

The event adopts a hybrid, participatory conference format. Short opening contributions will introduce the European policy context and the ToC experience. Presentations from AMIF sister projects will highlight complementary approaches. Three moderated thematic panels will bring different professional and institutional perspectives into dialogue, followed by an open-floor synthesis and informal networking.

The methodology centres on peer learning and critical reflection. Contributions will focus on practical evidence, implementation challenges, innovative approaches, cooperation needs and questions of transferability. Discussions are intended to generate usable insights rather than solely present project outputs.

Expected outcomes

- Greater awareness of the ToC project's achievements, educational tools and implementation experience.
- Shared learning on promising practices and continuing barriers to migrant children's educational inclusion.
- Policy-relevant reflections emerging from frontline experience and cross-sectoral dialogue.
- Renewed professional connections and possible synergies among participating organizations and AMIF initiatives.
- Identified opportunities to apply and sustain relevant tools, methodologies and partnerships beyond the project.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

TIME	SESSION
08:45–09:00	**Registration of participants**
09:00–09:10	**Welcome session: Opening the Final Conference** | **Katerina Androna**, General Director of European Expression, ToC Work Package 6 Leader
09:10–09:15	**The strategic importance of education in the integration of migrant communities | Sevi Voloudaki**, Deputy Minister of Migration and Asylum in Greece
09:15–09:20	**The Role of Local Authorities in the Social Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees | Thanassis Chimonas**, Vice Mayor on Integration of Migrants and Refugees
09:20–09:25	**The role of education in the protection and integration of unaccompanied minors | Kalli Argiropoulou**, Representative of the General Secretariat for Vulnerable Citizens and Institutional Protection, Department of Support and Social Integration.
09:25–09:30	**Comprehensive support for migrant children and their families | Archimandrite Panteleimon Papasynefakis**, General Director of SYNYPARXIS - NGO of the Church of Greece on Migration and Refugee Issues
09:30–09:40	**AMIF: Supporting integration and sustainable impact** | **Tamara Munoz**, DG Home Project Officer
09:40–09:55	**The Theory of Change journey**: **Project key insights** | **Stefanos Spaneas & Yevheniia Biriukova,** ToC Project Coordinators, CODECA
09:55-10:05	**Empowering Children's Voices through Rhetoric Speech** | **Manolis Polychronides**, Rhetoric Trainer, Political Scientist & **Elena Symelidou**, Project Manager Pyxida, European Expression

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Theory of Change
Connecting kids to causes

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TIME	SESSION
10:05–10:35	**Building on synergies: AMIF sister projects (GUARD-UP; Integrated; CREATE)** | **Melina Chalkidi, Maria Koumianaki & Lina Staikou**, Project representatives from CECL, KMAKEDPDE & FAROS
10:35–11:05	**Coffee break and networking**
11:05–11:40	**PANEL 1: Inclusive Integration in Practice: What Works Across Different Contexts?** **Elena Gajotto,** Project Coordinator Una Casa per l'Uomo, ToC Work Package 2 Leader **Yevheniia Biriukova**, Project Manager, CODECA, ToC Coordinator **Marco Berdusco,** Project Manager Una Casa per l'Uomo, ToC Work Package 2 Leader
11:40–12:20	**PANEL 2: From Practice to Policy: What Needs to Change?** **Stefanos Spaneas,** Project Coordinator, CODECA, ToC Coordinator **Alice Tramontano,** Programme Manager, IRC Italia, Work Package 3 Leader **Javier García Gómez,** Project Coordinator, Inercia Digital
12:20–12:50	**PANEL 3: Participation, Voice and Empowerment: Engaging People Differently** **Andrea Canil,** Project Coordinator KIRIKU **Damianos Vavanos**, Project Coordinator, Social Hackers Academy **Donatella Fabbian,** Project Manager KIRIKU **Manolis Polychronides**, Rhetoric Trainer, Political Scientist **Themis Kossidas**, European Expression
12:50–13:00	**Open floor: Key insights, takeaways and final reflections**