



**EUROPEAN CAPITALS
OF INCLUSION
AND DIVERSITY**

Webinar for potential applicants

15 January 2024

Introducing the Award

- [European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award](#) - launched for the very first time in **November 2021**.
- Part of the [Commission's anti-racism action plan](#) and [LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025](#)
- Why? To reward towns, cities and regions in the European Union for their work in promoting **diversity and inclusion** and helping to create **discrimination free societies**.
- On **6 December 2023**, we launched the **third edition** of the Award.



Award 2023



74 eligible applications received

From **14** Member States

Winners of 2023



Above 50,000 inhabitants

1. Terrassa City Council, Spain
2. Brussels-Capital, Belgium
3. City of Helsinki, Finland



Below 50,000 inhabitants

1. La Zarza, Spain
2. Labin, Croatia
3. Municipality of Fundão, Portugal



LGBTIQ Equality

1. Gdańsk, Poland
2. Catalonia, Spain
3. City of Reggio Emilia, Italy



Winners of 2023

Visit our website to read [interviews](#) with the 2023 Gold Award winners and check what receiving the Award meant to them!

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"The feeling of local belonging has great potential in building more inclusive, stronger and more resilient cities"

Terrassa, a gold winner of the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award 2023 in the category of local authorities with more than 50,000 inhabitants

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They are living proof that many people in small places doing small things can change the world.

La Zarza, a gold winner of the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award 2023 in the category of local authorities with less than 50,000 inhabitants

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Their systemic response to discrimination has empowered the local LGBTIQ community by raising awareness, supporting victims, and ensuring the inclusivity of their public services.

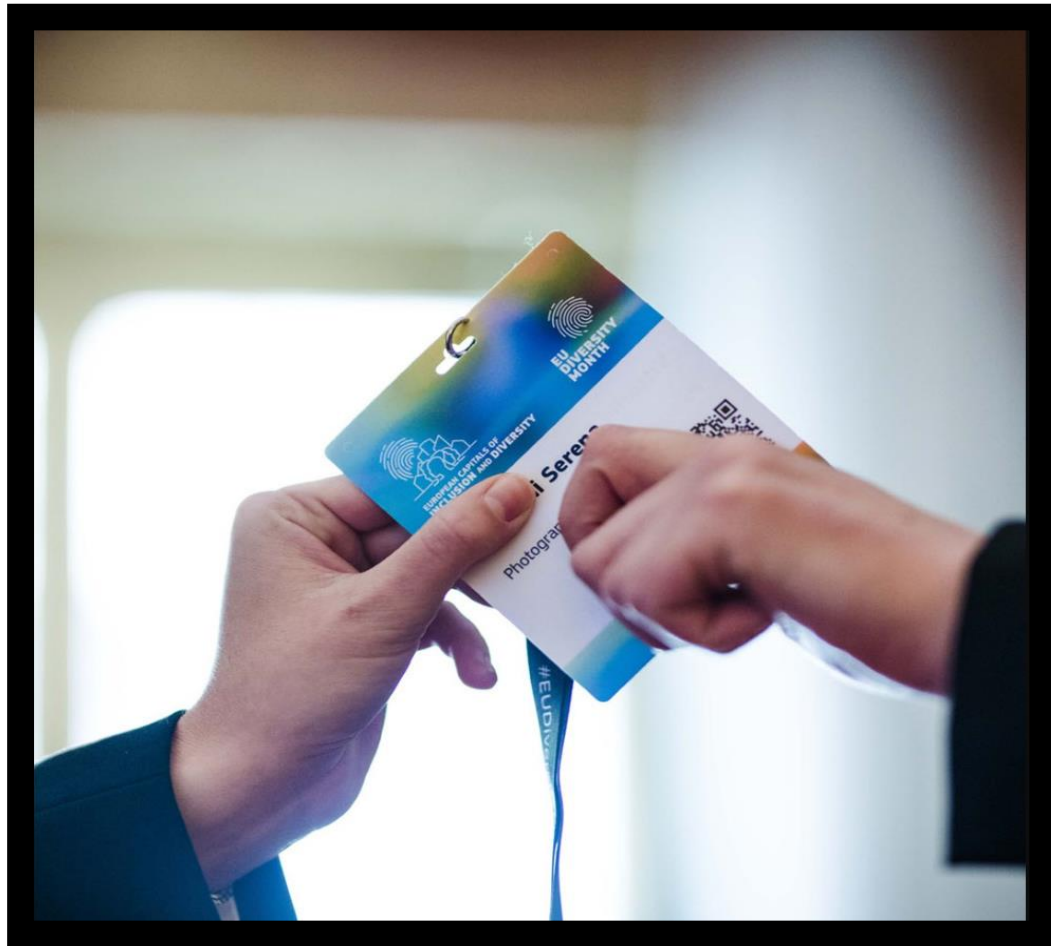
Gdańsk, a gold winner of the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award 2023 for LGBTIQ equality initiatives

Who will be awarded in 2024



- The Award will recognise three local authorities in **two categories**.
 - local authorities with less than 50 000 inhabitants;
 - local authorities with more than 50 000 inhabitants.
- In 2024, a **Specific Award for local authorities enabling safe towns, cities and regions for women in all their diversity, by addressing violence against women** will also be handed out. There will be three winners in this category (the number of inhabitants is not a factor for this award).

Who can apply?



The Award is open to all local authorities, including towns, cities and regions of the **EU Member States**.

The submitting body shall be an **administrative unit** governed by a city council or another form of democratically elected governmental body

What initiatives are we looking for?

Best practices covering grounds of discrimination under [article 19 of TFEU](#) and their intersectionality are eligible

- Sex
- Racial or ethnic origin
- Religion or belief
- Disability
- Age
- Sexual orientation



How to apply – the most important steps

1. Read the [rules of competition](#) and [guidance note](#) for applicants (available on eudiversity2024.eu website in all EU languages)
2. Go to [online application](#) and create a profile
 - Once you **sign in**, you can start filling in the application, save it and come back to it later.
 - Applicants are encouraged to submit their project proposal **in English**, but proposals submitted in **any of the official languages of the EU will be accepted** (translated by automatic translation).
 - You can also download the word document of the application form and fill it in with your colleagues. BUT you will need to copy the text from this document into the **online application** form before submitting it.
 - Make sure you **answer all the questions, complete all sections** of the application form and **adhere to the word limits** indicated per section of the application form (the indicated maximum number of characters available for each answer includes spaces).
3. When ready, **submit** the online application together with the supporting document(s)
 - The applicants must attach a **Declaration of honour** (Annex III) signed by the Mayor or the highest-ranking representative, authorised by national law to legally represent the town, city or region.

Specific Award for safe towns, cities and regions for women in all their diversity, by addressing violence against women

- All applicants have to fill in the sections A to G of the application form.
- Local authorities competing for Specific Award shall **answer both the General part and the Specific Award part** of the application form (section H).

H/ OBLIGATORY PART for applications for the SPECIFIC AWARD FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES ENABLING SAFE TOWNS, CITIES, AND REGIONS FOR WOMEN IN ALL THEIR DIVERSITY, BY ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

SPECIFIC AWARD FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES ENABLING SAFE TOWNS, CITIES AND REGIONS FOR WOMEN IN ALL THEIR DIVERSITY, BY ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- 1. Please set out the roles you play in enabling a safe town/city/region** for women in all their diversity. Please specify the ambition you bring to these roles and if it embraces an intersectional approach, providing details if so.
- 2. Please describe your key initiatives in enabling a safe town/city/region** for women in all their diversity. This includes: awareness raising; communication campaigns, educational resources; training provision; information provision; grant making; events; safe public spaces; coordination and collaboration with other agencies; action plans; and sustaining a safe working environment for your women staff and ensuring your services are responsive to the particular needs of women in such situations. Please identify any intersectional dimension to this work across the grounds of age, disability, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, and LGBTIQ.

Additional information

- In addition, to support their application, candidates can also upload or provide a link to a 10-slide **PowerPoint presentation** to illustrate and highlight the strong points of their application.
- Local authorities may be contacted by the Award Secretariat in the case of **clerical and/or administrative errors** or in relation to **missing documents**.
- The rules of contest and criteria may be updated in the future and reassessed in views of the outcomes for the future editions.
- Respect the deadline of **15 February 2024, 12:00 CET** to submit your application

Award criteria

Both independent experts and EU Juries will assess the candidate local authorities based on the following evaluation criteria.

Criterion	Maximum no. of points
Nature and scope of the initiatives	25
Ownership / level of commitment	25
Impact	20
Quality and sustainability of initiatives	15
Involvement of people exposed to discrimination	15
TOTAL	100

Applicants must obtain **at least 60 points** in relation to their responses to the questions related to the General Award to be admitted to the European Jury level of the competition for the General Award or for the Specific Award.

Timeline

Milestones	Indicative period
Opening of the applications process	6 December 2023
Closing of the applications process	15 February 2024 12:00 CET
Evaluation by independent experts	February/March 2024
Evaluation by European Juries (General competition and Specific award for local authorities enabling safe towns, cities and regions for women in all their diversity, by addressing violence against women)	March/April 2024
Information to applicants	April 2024
Ceremony for the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Awards 2024	25 April 2024

Advice for application

- Your application should be **as clear and precise as possible** so the independent experts and the European Jury will be able to evaluate your efforts in the area of diversity and inclusion.
- Make sure that you have clearly presented **your approach and strategy** with regards to diversity and inclusion and that you have detailed **key innovative activities** that led you to success in this field.
- Indicate the **time frame** of the activities: when they were launched, progress made in their implementation, and what the future developments will be.
- Please focus on **specifics, facts and numbers**. Give **examples**, including qualitative and quantitative information.



Award ceremony – 25/04

- The winners of the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity 2024 Award and the Specific Award for local authorities enabling safe towns, cities and regions for women in all their diversity, by addressing violence against women, will officially be announced at the **Award Ceremony in Brussels (venue: Mix Brussels) on April 25, 2024.**
- Shortlisted applicants from each category will be invited to Brussels.
- The winners will receive a physical award and a framed diploma. They will be promoted on social media as the winners and they will be able to use a ‘winner visual’ on their websites/materials etc.
- The ceremony will be also streamed online (via eudiversity2024.eu website).

The good practice sharing event– 26/04

- Shortlisted applicants will be also invited to the **good practice sharing event** organised in Brussels on the day following the Award ceremony, **April 26, 2024.**
- The aim of the event is to share good practice in the area of diversity and inclusion with other shortlisted applicants, stakeholders working in this field and the European Commission representatives.

Costs

- The European Commission will cover the travel and accommodation costs for both the Award ceremony and the good practice sharing event of **1 person/shortlisted applicant.**



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<https://www.eudiversity2024.eu/the-award>



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Thank you very much for your attention



Contact: award@eudiversity2024.eu