# Applications open for the 2025 European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award

Brussels, 26 November 2024

The European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award returns for its 4<sup>th</sup> edition.

Launched in 2020, the award recognises cities, towns and regions of all sizes that harness the power of diversity and foster inclusive communities through their innovative initiatives, policies, and programmes. The competition is a chance for local authorities to showcase policies and initiatives that create more diverse and inclusive spaces for everyone.

The European Commission will unveil the winners of the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award at a ceremony on 29 April 2025. The high-level event will gather mayors, national officials, diversity and inclusion enthusiasts and policymakers.

The award showcases the great efforts of the EU cities, towns and regions that are committed to building inclusive, equitable societies. Celebrating those who champion diversity and inclusion helps elevate standards and inspires others to foster environments where everyone can thrive. This year's specific focus on inclusive housing underscores the importance of equal access to the housing market for all.

The award recognises Gold, Silver and Bronze winners in two main categories:

- local authorities with less than 50,000 inhabitants
- local authorities with more than 50,000 inhabitants

In 2025, a specific award will be dedicated to inclusive housing.

The European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award is open to all local authorities in the EU. It is a chance to showcase policies and initiatives that build fairer and more inclusive societies by tackling discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age, or LGBTIQ identity.

Applications can be submitted through the <u>Award website</u> until 7 February 2025.

Shortlisted candidates will be announced on the <u>official website</u>, while the winners will be revealed during the Award ceremony on 29 April 2025 in Brussels. Media representatives are invited to attend the ceremony, which will be organised together with the opening of the European Diversity Month.

#### Previous Award editions

Learn more about the seven <u>2024 Award winners</u> recognised for their contribution to a more equal and inclusive Europe.

#### **Press contact**

For media enquiries or to be added to our media list for the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award or the European Diversity Month, please contact:

<u>eudiversity\_press@vo-europe.eu</u> Link to subscribe to #DiversityCapitals newsletter

### **Further information**

For more information on the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award and the European Diversity Month, visit our <u>website</u> and follow us on social media.

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