

ECCAR – WHO WE ARE

The European Coalition of Cities against Racism (ECCAR) is an initiative launched by UNESCO in 2004 to establish a network of cities committed to improving their policies to combat racism, antisemitism and other intersecting forms of discrimination. As a network of cities, ECCAR works primarily with local authorities across Europe and supports its member cities in strategically planning and sustainably implementing local anti-racism measures.

Based on the conviction that municipalities act as key change agents in their roles as democratic institutions, service providers, contractors and employers, ECCAR supports its member cities by providing a range of practical tools to facilitate action. Based on ECCAR's 10-Point Action Plan, member cities commit to transforming their cities into safer and more inclusive environments for all, regardless of nationality, ethnic, cultural, religious or social background.

A core component of this mission is the close exchange and cooperation among local authorities from nearly [200 member cities](#) across Europe, enabling them to learn from one another and share good practices. While each member city operates within its own local resources, structures, capacities, and social, legal, and economic contexts, all ECCAR cities are united by the recognition of diversity as a strength and by their shared responsibility to promote and protect human rights.

ECCAR & UNESCO

ECCAR is the European branch of UNESCO's International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities (ICCAR) and therefore works closely with UNESCO. Within the framework of UNESCO, ECCAR member cities can cooperate directly with UNESCO and benefit from its international visibility, for example, by jointly organising a UNESCO Masterclass against Racism and Discrimination. The extensive networks of UNESCO and ECCAR also facilitate the identification of partner cities for joint initiatives and alliances to combat discrimination and promote human rights.

ECCAR'S 10-POINT ACTION PLAN

The ECCAR 10-Point Action Plan was adopted in Nuremberg on 10 December 2004 and forms the foundation of the coalition's work. Upon joining ECCAR, each member city commits to working towards the implementation of the action plan. It identifies key areas for action at the local level and provides a continuous framework for argumentation and legitimisation of local efforts against racism, antisemitism and related intolerance/form of discrimination. While not all action plan points can be addressed simultaneously, member cities are encouraged to set individual priorities on the basis of their specific local needs and to link existing initiatives with the Action Plan in order to strengthen the overall impact of their measures and initiatives.

ECCAR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

ECCAR member cities...

- benefit from the exchange of good practices with more than 180 municipalities across 23 European countries on local measures, challenges, and solutions in combating racism and antisemitism;
 - To this end, member cities can participate in topic-specific webinars, training courses, peer-to-peer exchanges, working groups, and other learning formats.
 - The different spaces and formats focus on shared challenges, practical solutions, open dialogue, and capacity building for local strategies.
 - ECCAR currently offers working groups and webinars on the following topics: Anti-Muslim Racism, Antisemitism, Anti-Black Racism, Roma Inclusion, Equality Data Collection, Small Cities and Rural Areas and Artificial Intelligence;
- can draw on consulting services provided by ECCAR's Scientific Advisory Council, including individual support in the design, implementation, and evaluation of local action plans against racism.
- can receive international recognition for their work through UNESCO.
 - By participating in the Online City Reporting, cities receive official, scientific feedback at the political level on specific measures and initiatives. This official feedback is issued by the Scientific Advisory Council, of which UNESCO is a member;
- are eligible for the annual ECCAR Award, which recognises particularly innovative and effective municipal actions against racism, and is presented on behalf of ECCAR and UNESCO;
- may invite ECCAR representatives to their local contexts at any time to raise awareness of their municipal anti-racism work, communicating the benefits of the ECCAR membership locally, or present the scientific feedback on their work in political committees;
- gain access to the Online City Reporting Tool, a digital platform that supports structured reporting and facilitates the sharing of good practices among all member cities in the fight against racism and antisemitism;
- can receive support in identifying opportunities for third-party funding and being connected with partner cities for joint funding applications;
- and their specific needs and perspectives are represented at European level by ECCAR's Executive Board, Steering Committee, and the Office, including in cooperation with the EU, the Council of Europe, and other European institutions;
- can enhance the international visibility of their local work through ECCAR and UNESCO and connect via social media, including [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Youtube](#).

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENTS THAT ENABLE THESE BENEFITS

By joining the coalition, ECCAR member cities commit to...

- actively promoting a culture of human rights, non-racism and non-discrimination;
- working towards the local implementation of the 10-Point Action Plan;
- allocating and linking resources to strengthen local anti-racism work and align it with the ECCAR's 10-Point Action Plan;
- regularly reporting on progress by submitting a report every two years on measures taken to implement the action plan via the digital Online City Reporting Tool;
- participating in the annual General Assembly meetings.
- contributing to the sustainability of the coalition by paying an annual membership fee. The scale of the membership fee, based on the number of inhabitants, can be found [here](#).

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

ECCAR is composed by the following organisational bodies:

The Board:

The ECCAR Board currently consists of representatives from the following cities:

- Benedetto Zacchiroli (City of Bologna, Italy)
- Danijel Cubelic (City of Heidelberg, Germany)
- Dr Ayfer Yazkan Kubal (Kadıköy Municipality, Turkey)
- Bartłomiej Ciążyński (City of Wrocław, Poland)
- Sara Belbeida (City of Barcelona, Spain)
- Evans Gumbe (City Ratzeburg and Amt Lauenburgische Seen, Germany)

The General Assembly:

The General Assembly is responsible for all essential decisions and for electing the Steering Committee, with the exception of permanent members. Each member city represented at the General Assembly has one voting right.

The Steering Committee:

The Steering Committee comprises a maximum of 26 voting members and is composed by: one representative each from a maximum of 25 member cities, one representative of UNESCO (Paris) and one representative of the city hosting the Office. The representatives of UNESCO and of the city hosting the Office are permanent members of the Steering Committee. The UNESCO has no voting rights. The current member cities, appointed for a four-year mandate, are:

Barcelona – Berlin – Bologna – Bonn – Bordeaux – Cagliari – Clermont-Ferrand – Cologne – Dortmund – Esch-sur-Alzette – Ghent – Graz – Heidelberg – Helsingborg – Jena – Lausanne – Malmö – Monheim am Rhein – Nantes – Nuremberg – Oslo – Oulu – Rotterdam – Vienna – Wrocław – Zurich & UNESCO



European Coalition
of Cities
Against Racism



The Office:

The ECCAR office is located in the City of Heidelberg and can be contacted via office@eccar.info.

The Scientific Advisory Council (SAC):

The SAC evaluates the implementation of the 10-Point Action Plan based on the reports submitted by member cities on a regular basis.

HOW TO JOIN?

The information sheet ‘ECCAR – How to join’ provides all relevant details regarding the membership procedure.

CONTACT

For further information or if you are interested in becoming a member, please contact us at office@eccar.info.

ECCAR Office
o/c City of Heidelberg
Eppelheimer Str. 13
D-69115 Heidelberg

+49 6221 58-15519
office@eccar.info
www.eccar.info