



# ANVITA

ASSOCIATION NATIONALE  
DES VILLES ET TERRITOIRES ACCUEILLANTS

## GUIDANCE FOR A WELCOMING FRANCE

2025



***Territories committed to inspiring  
local policies!***

contact@anvita.fr - <https://anvita.fr>



**Jeanne Barseghian,**  
*Copresident of ANVITA, Mayor of Strasbourg*

“ **This month marks the closing of Strasbourg World Book Capital 2024, and we are extremely proud to have placed the City of refuge at the heart of our cultural program.** We reaffirm that culture is a vital lever for peace, humanism, and the defense of human rights, and we stand firmly for cultural rights for all.

In 2024 and 2025, the European project Library Bridges (LiBri) is creating connections between many Cities and libraries in France and across Europe, placing public reading at the core of policies of hospitality, solidarity, and inclusion for people in exile.

The year 2024 was also marked by the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris and throughout France, celebrating through sport the values that we defend every day. Like all national delegations, the Refugee Team moved and inspired spectators and viewers alike.

At a time when a far-right party was on the brink of entering the Prime Minister's office, and as the country faced unprecedented political instability, we were still able to come together in joy and unity over the course of the summer.

We now emerge even more convinced of the importance of the unconditional policies we champion, essential for social cohesion in our territories and for the respect of everyone's rights. This guide illustrates the full commitment of French Cities and regions! ” ”



**Damien Carême,**  
*Copresident of ANVITA and Eurodeputy*

“ **The year 2024 was marked by the European elections, during which xenophobic and racist rhetoric intensified, drawing an increasingly polarized electorate, fuelled in part by misinformation and lies about migration.** National elections in various Member States of the European Union have shown the same trend. Billionaires are now openly investing in the far right through large-scale media takeovers. Alongside ANVITA members, we firmly condemn this strategy. We can't remain passive in the face of this. For the years ahead, we have placed at the core of the network's action a plan to counter far-right ideas, as well as an agenda to promote the values of hospitality that we stand for.

As far-right ideas seep into decision-making arenas, media spaces and pseudo-scientific platforms, we have worked to train, inform, equip, dismantle their narratives and create spaces for gathering and mobilization. We are far from alone: we are witnessing a flourishing of solidarity and civic engagement. We welcome this and salute the strong mobilization of civil society.

Fighting the far right, everywhere and at all times, is not the responsibility of any one discriminated group; it concerns all of us. It means defending the common good, social cohesion, and the ability to live well together in our territories. This is at the heart of the local policies carried out by Municipalities committed to unconditional welcome. ” ”



**ANVITA's annual guide "For a Welcoming France" aims to present inspiring practices implemented by its members in the field of unconditional reception.** ANVITA speaks of "inspiring practices" rather than "best practices". These practices are works in progress and are meant to inspire other territories not only through their successes, but also through the challenges encountered along the way. This guide seeks to reflect the diversity of member territories, without claiming to be exhaustive. It also highlights initiatives from local authorities outside the network, as well as from associations and organizations working toward the same goals. The collection period runs from January 2024 to April 2025.



**This guide is intended for a wide range of audiences: member local authorities seeking better mutual understanding; others looking for inspiration; local actors wishing to contribute ideas to their Municipality; or anyone else interested.** The guide aims to modestly serve both a Municipality at the beginning of its reflection on hospitality and a Municipality already engaged that wishes to deepen its efforts. This comprehensive approach is our main recommendation: while it is possible to select individual examples from this collection, it should be noted that the actions presented have the greatest meaning and impact when implemented together.



**The National Association of Welcoming Cities and Territories (ANVITA) is a network of Municipalities, inter-municipal authorities, departments, regions, and elected officials committed to unconditional and dignified reception in France.** Founded in 2018, it counts, as of May 2025, 90 local authorities and more than sixty elected officials as individual members. ANVITA works to create spaces for sharing inspiring practices and political mobilization to translate unconditional reception into the implementation of national policies, involving local actors who are on the front line of reception and integration.



Since 2024, ANVITA has been a partner in the **Library Bridges** project alongside European partners, aiming to improve the reception and inclusion of people in migration through library initiatives. This 2025 edition of the guide highlights **inspiring practices from municipal libraries and media libraries**, which, through their role as local public services, implement numerous initiatives to promote the inclusion of all audiences. You will find them throughout the guide marked with **this color code**.



**The year 2024 was also marked by the Paris Olympic and Paralympic Games**, which provided Municipalities with the opportunity to further promote access to physical and sports activities for everyone. The 2025 edition of the guide "For a Welcoming France" aims to highlight local practices on these themes.



We have taken the utmost care in collecting the practices presented in this guide. However, in the event of an error or misinterpretation, we invite stakeholders to contact us by email at [contact@anvita.fr](mailto:contact@anvita.fr).



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# ANVITA in numbers

60 ELECTED OFFICIALS

+5 MEMBERS

+500 COLLECTED PRACTICES

7 YEARS

78 MUNICIPALITIES

7 INTER-MUNICIPALITIES

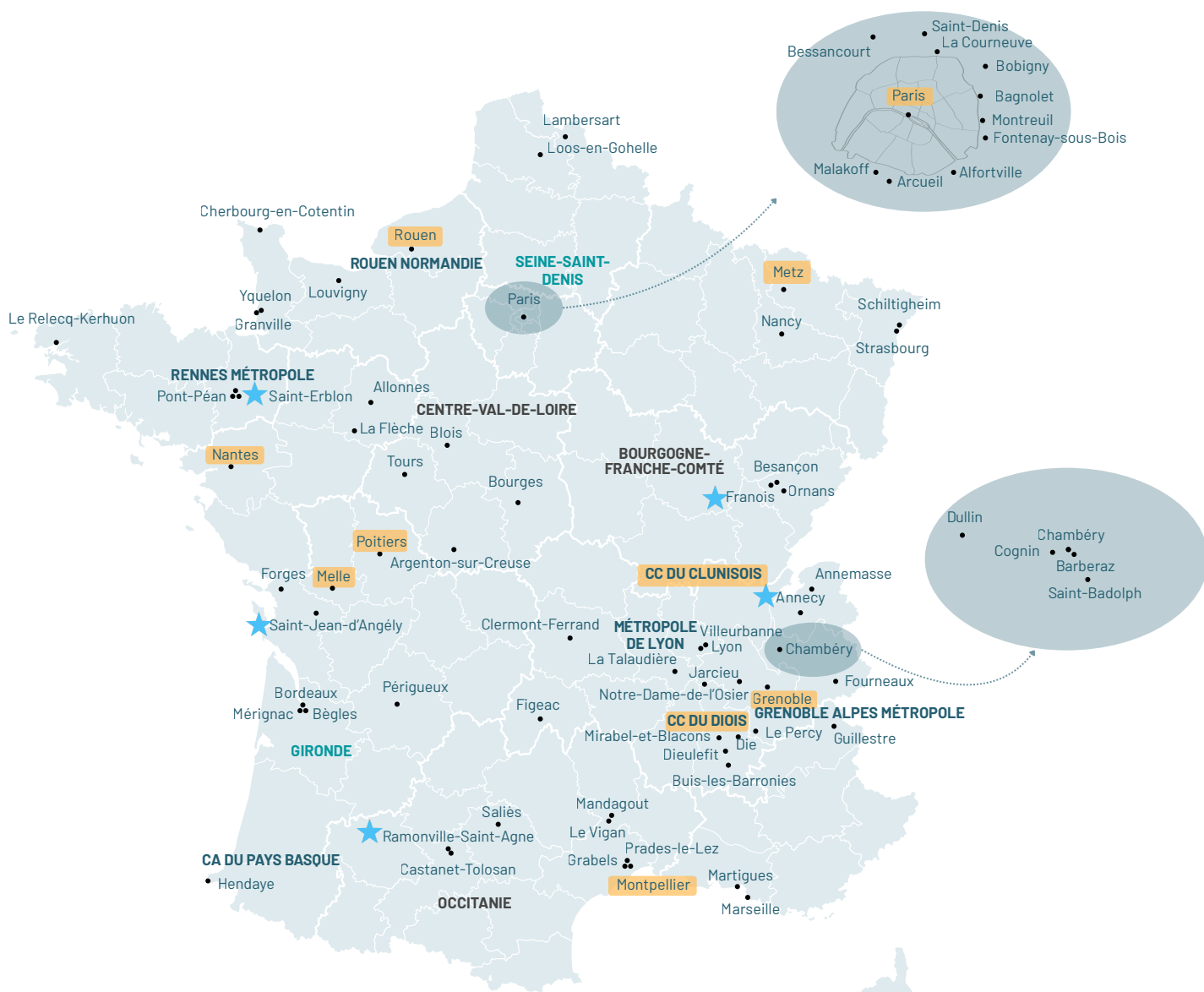
2 DEPARTMENTS

3 REGIONS

12 PILOT TERRITORIES



\*The number of memberships changes throughout the year. Please refer to the updated list at [www.anvita.fr](http://www.anvita.fr)



Overseas Departments and Regions

GUYANE

MARTINIQUE

GUADELOUPE

LA RÉUNION

MAYOTTE

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# THE LIBRARY BRIDGES PROJECT

ANVITA is a partner in the European **Library Bridges** (LiBri) project, alongside a consortium of six European partners coordinated by Bibliothèques Sans Frontières. The project aims to improve the reception and inclusion of people in migration through library initiatives. Public reading facilities, as free local public services open to everyone without conditions, play a central role not only in providing access to culture, information, and language learning, but also as spaces for reception, guidance, social connection, and relaxation.

Local authorities involved in the project in France: **CC Clunisois** (71), **CC Diois** (26), Gennevilliers (92), CA Grand Paris Sud (91), **Grenoble** (38), **Melle** (72), **Metz** (57), Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole (34), **Nantes** (44), **Paris** (75), **Poitiers** (86), **Rouen** (76).



May 2024

## Kick off meeting

The consortium of European stakeholders met in **Fontenay-sous-Bois** for the official launch of the project, which included two days of work and networking.

17 September 2024

## National launch

ANVITA and Bibliothèques Sans Frontières organized the launch of the project around a round table discussion on welcoming libraries with the participation of the City of Paris, the Plaine Commune library network, the Bibliothèque Publique d'Information, and France Terre d'Asile.

15 October 2024

## Regional workshop

A regional meeting was held in Lyon to present the project and discuss the experience of Lyon libraries in welcoming visitors with other stakeholders in the region, notably the Cities of **Chambéry** (73) and **Clermont-Ferrand** (63).

February 2025

## Launch in the territories

ANVITA launched the project in the selected regions by conducting local assessments of needs and existing resources in order to develop a tailored local action plan.

15-16 April 2025

## European event in Strasbourg

ANVITA organized the European meetings of the LiBri project between the consortium and pilot territories as part of the closing ceremony of **Strasbourg** World Book Capital 2024.

September 2024

## Desk research

The project partners conducted documentary research to establish an initial overview of the reception in libraries in the five partner countries.

26 September 2024

## Welcoming territories forum

The Welcoming Territories Forum was organized during ANVITA's Annual General Assembly, providing an opportunity to present the LiBri project to the local authorities and partners in attendance.

January 2025

## Call for expression of interest

A call for expressions of interest has been launched to select 12 French territories, for a total of more than 50 territories at the European level, to join the project.

April 2025

## Consortium meeting in Riga

The consortium of partners met in Riga, Latvia, to review the project's progress halfway through its duration. This provided an opportunity to attend the annual meetings of partner EBLIDA.

## What's next ?

The next steps in the project include: presenting the diagnostics, organising workshops to co-design a local strategy, training sessions for library professionals, field visits, and creating a community of inspiring practices.



# PROMOTING ANOTHER VISION MIGRATIONS



Shifting perspectives on migration requires a true transformation of public policy, both in its goals and in the way it is implemented. This means taking a more collaborative approach, grounded in dialogue and cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders, especially those directly affected. It involves learning to co-create solutions, engaging with communities, and reshaping the narratives around reception and inclusion. In this context, local authorities and their libraries play a vital role as accessible points of support and as key drivers of cultural and social policies.

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## Providing tools



To strengthen a territory's reception policy, it is essential to assess local needs, train stakeholders on the issues of reception and inclusion, and implement tools that ensure its sustainability.

**TRAINING:** The Cities of **Rouen** (76) and **Clermont-Ferrand** (63) trained their staff on multiculturalism and immigration law. **Besançon** (25) offered a course titled "Understanding each other to act better" for staff from three Municipalities. **Périgueux** (24) provides a training series for staff on supporting people in exile and for associations on different administrative statuses. **Strasbourg** (67) organized a workshop on combating discrimination for both volunteers and professionals, while **Rennes Métropole** (35) offered a workshop to address stereotypes and prejudices.

**IN LIBRARIES:** **Lyon Métropole** (69), the Cities of **Lyon** (69) and **Villeurbanne** (69) organized training with Le Group' for their staff, including library personnel, on welcoming and guiding newly arrived individuals. Cultural mediators in the City of **Metz** (57) received awareness training on welcoming non-French-speaking audiences. In **Poitiers** (86), around forty professionals from the network of media libraries participated in intercultural training provided by the Toit du Monde Intercultural Social Center at the request of the media library.

**SURVEYS:** Before implementing tools, it is necessary to assess the situation on the territory. The City of **Strasbourg** (67) conducted an exploratory survey following the creation of its Observatory on Discrimination. The City of **Nantes** (44) also launched its own observatory with the aim of improving public policies and combating discrimination, particularly in the workplace. The 2024 survey on perceived discrimination carried out by ARESVI and initiated by the City and **Métropole of Rennes** (35) will inform a new Plan to Combat Discrimination. This survey is complemented by training for elected officials and staff on gender issues and anti-discrimination measures in public policies.

**TOOLS AND TERRITORIAL PLANS:** An inclusive reception policy can be formalized through territorial plans for preventing and combating discrimination and racism, as seen in **Grenoble** (38) and **Nancy** (54). The **Rennes** (35) libraries developed a **documentary charter** affirming principles of pluralism and accessibility. **Lyon's** (69) 2023-2027 **Cultural Cooperation Charter** aims to facilitate access to culture for everyone and promote cultural diversity.



The 8th edition of the Night of Solidarity took place on the night of January 23-24, 2025, in numerous French Cities. Eight ANVITA member Municipalities participated in this census initiative.

The aim of the action is to count homeless people in a given territory and to gain a deeper understanding of their needs and profiles in order to improve existing support services. The overall goal is to adapt public policies regarding poverty and homelessness while raising awareness among local residents about issues of social exclusion. The City of **Bobigny** (93) went further by distributing hot drinks, food parcels, sleeping bags, and hygiene kits to the people encountered. This initiative mobilized elected officials, municipal staff, social workers, associations, and volunteer citizens from **Alfortville** (94), **Bobigny** (93), **Bordeaux** (33), **Nancy** (54), **Rouen** (76), **Saint-Denis** (93), **Marseille** (13), and **Paris** (75), who worked together to make this Night of Solidarity a success.

## Cross-disciplinary and multi stakeholders cooperation



**Welcoming people in exile is a cross-cutting issue that must be addressed collectively by associations, local authorities, the research community, and all stakeholders working on this topic.**

**AT THE TERRITORIAL LEVEL:** A local citizens' convention on immigration was organized in **Blois** (41), bringing together local policy actors, including the Mayor, representatives of associations, and citizens. The City of **Besançon** (25) and the **Bourgogne-Franche-Comté Region** partnered to create the Migrations – Bourgogne-Franche-Comté platform, which networks regional actors working on migration issues.

**CONFERENCES:** The first conference on transculturality in the **Centre-Val de Loire Region** was held at the Natural History Museum in **Bourges** (18), focusing on the rites and traditional objects passed down to children of migrant families.

**MEETINGS:** In 2024, the Department of **Seine-Saint-Denis** (93) organized the annual meeting of its Departmental Observatory on Discrimination and Equality

dedicated to access to education and healthcare, in collaboration with local actors. Additionally, the Department is involved in the WELDI project and, with support from ANVITA, facilitates the meetings of the Local Urbact Group (GLU): multi-stakeholder gatherings on issues related to reception and inclusion. The association RésO Villes organized a forum on interculturality and living together in disadvantaged neighborhoods, hosted by the City of Rennes (35). The City of **Allonnes** (72) and ANVITA also participated.

**IN LIBRARIES:** Some municipal libraries have a dedicated position focused on outreach to marginalized audiences, including migrants, working collaboratively with other library staff. This is the case in **Poitiers** (86) and **Paris** (75).

## Networking: here and there



**Networking, both locally and internationally, is essential to promote the widespread sharing of dignified and unconditional reception practices. This is a key objective of the LiBri project, which connects 50 libraries and Municipalities across Europe.**

**ANVITA NETWORK:** The Cities of **Anncy** (74), **Francois** (25), **Ramonville-Saint-Agne** (31), **Saint-Erblon** (35), and **Saint-Jean-d'Angély** (17) joined ANVITA during 2024.

**ANVITA EVENTS:** The Arc Alpin meeting, organized by the City of **Chambéry** (73) and ANVITA, brought together elected officials, staff, association representatives, and researchers to foster mutual understanding and promote the sharing of practices. The Municipalities of **Anncy** (74), **Barberaz** (73), **Grenoble** (38), **Notre-Dame-de-l'Osier** (38), and **Grenoble Alpes Métropole** (38) participated. In April 2025, ANVITA also organized the "Territories, Exile and Borders" meeting with the City of **Hendaye** (64) and its CCAS to assess the reception of people in exile at the Franco-Spanish border and strengthen cooperation between Municipalities and associations. The City of **Bordeaux** (33) and the **Occitanie Region** participated in the event. Elected officials and staff also visited the Pausa reception center, run by the **Communauté d'Agglomération du Pays Basque** (64) and the City of Bayonne (64).

**INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS:** The City of **Montreuil** (93) joined the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), committed to representing, defending, and amplifying the voices of local and regional governments. The Cities of **Besançon** (25), **Lyon** (69), **Paris** (75), and **Strasbourg** (67), along with the Department of **Seine-Saint-Denis** (93), are members of the Intercultural Cities Programme (ICC), which helps Cities adopt an intercultural approach in their policies and develop strategies to manage diversity positively. Meanwhile, the global Strong Cities Network focuses on combating all forms of hatred, extremism, and polarization. The Cities of **Bordeaux** (33), **Montreuil** (93), **Paris** (75), **Sarcelles** (95), and **Strasbourg** (67) are notable members.

**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:** The Department of **Seine-Saint-Denis** (93) has launched a partnership with the prefectural council of Inezgane Ait-Melloul in Morocco, which includes training workshops and field visits.

# CONVEYING A POLITICAL MESSAGE

## In reaction to current events



In response to a political climate at odds with the values of reception, Municipalities and elected officials are mobilizing to reaffirm their commitment and promote an alternative narrative on migration.

**FAR-RIGHT:** In an opinion piece published on July 4, 2024, by France Bleu, over 300 elected officials called to block the far right in the second round of legislative elections. The statement was signed by officials from the Cities of **Allonnes** (72), **Arcueil** (93), **Bagnolet** (93), **Bourges** (18), **Castanet-Tolosan** (31), **Cherbourg-en-Cotentin** (50), **Clermont-Ferrand** (63), **La Courneuve** (93), **Nancy** (54), **Prades-le-Lez** (34), **Poitiers** (86), **Le Relecq-Kerhuon** (29), **Rouen** (76), **Strasbourg** (67), **Tours** (37), **Rennes Métropole** (35), and **Rouen Métropole** (76).

**MARRIAGE:** On February 20, 2025, ANVITA issued a statement opposing the proposed law to ban marriage for people in an irregular situation and condemning the mayor of Béziers' refusal to marry a couple. René Revol, Mayor of **Grabels** (34), Grégory Doucet, Mayor of **Lyon** (59), and Cédric Van Styvendael, Mayor of **Villeurbanne** (69), took a stand against this proposal and in favor of unconditional marriage.

**HOUSING:** A collective of mayors and presidents of welcoming Municipalities, members of ANVITA, published an opinion piece in Libération on June 6, 2024, opposing the new housing law and the reform of the Solidarity and Urban Renewal (SRU) law, which guarantees a minimum threshold of social housing per Municipality. The signatory members of ANVITA include: Alfortville (94), **Arcueil** (93), **Barberaz** (73), **Besançon** (25), **Blois** (41), **Bordeaux** (33), **Bourges** (18), **Chambéry** (73), **Cherbourg-en-Cotentin** (50), **Clermont-Ferrand** (63), **Figeac** (46), **Fontenay-sous-Bois** (94), **Fourneaux** (73), **Grenoble** (38), **La Courneuve** (93), **La Flèche** (72), **Louvigny** (14), **Lyon** (69), **Malakoff** (92), **Mandagout** (30), **Martigues** (13), **Melle** (79), **Montreuil** (93), **Nantes** (44), **Poitiers** (86), **Pont-Péan** (35), **Rennes** (35), **Rouen** (76), **Saliès** (81), **Schiltigheim**, **Strasbourg** (67), **Tours** (37), **Villeurbanne**, **Lyon Métropole** (69), **Rennes Métropole** (35), **Rouen Métropole** (76), **Communauté de Communes du Diois** (26), and the Department of **Seine-Saint-Denis** (93).

## Welcoming Mayors Action Plan



Municipal meetings



Training sessions



News feed on migrations



Handbook for a welcoming mandate



Welcoming events

During its 2024 General Assembly, ANVITA approved a specific advocacy action plan to combat the rise of far-right ideas and promote a welcoming France: the "Welcoming Mayors" plan.

This plan will be carried out throughout 2025 with five main action areas:

- Thematic webinars, known as the "Municipal Meetings";
- A training module on Supporting the Fight Against the Far Right, offered during events organized with the Cities of **Grenoble** (38) and **Hendaye** (64);
- A handbook, "Manual for a Welcoming Mandate," created through interviews with elected officials from **Granville** (50), **Lyon** (69), **Prades-le-Lez** (34), **Rennes** (35), **Saliès** (81), **Strasbourg** (67), and **Villeurbanne** (69);
- A weekly news digest shared via WhatsApp, the "News Feed";
- Festive events celebrating reception, such as those organized with the Municipalities of **Grenoble** (38), **Hendaye** (64), **Lyon Métropole**, and the Cities of **Lyon** and **Villeurbanne** (69).

## By carrying a campaign



Supporting a fundraising campaign or leading an awareness campaign is a strong political act, allowing Municipalities to publicly affirm their commitment to a welcoming society.

**FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS:** Following Cyclone Chido, which struck Mayotte in December 2024 and caused significant human and material damage, the Municipality of **Castanet-Tolosan** (31) released €5,000 in aid to the French Red Cross, the Municipality of **Guillestre** (05) approved €2,500 to the "Solidarity AMF/Mayotte" support fund, and the City of **Lyon** (69) donated €50,000 to the Fondation de France. The City of **Marseille** (13) dispatched two doctors and a nurse from the Naval Fire Battalion and released an emergency aid package of €50,000.

**GRANTS TO ASSOCIATIONS:** The Municipality of **Buis-les-Baronnies** (26) supports the Intervalle association, which works with people in extreme poverty, providing essential services including a day reception center and coordinating an emergency shelter. The Municipality of **Mandagout** (30) provided financial support to the Bienvenue à Mandagout association, whose mission is to welcome, assist with integration, and provide administrative support to refugee families in the Municipality.

**POSTERS AND PUBLIC DISPLAYS:** Municipalities can use public displays to convey strong messages to residents. In 2024, the City of **Bordeaux** (33) launched a poster

campaign against everyday racism and antisemitism on City billboards. On the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Hate, the City of **Grenoble** (38) initiated an awareness and information campaign on access to legal defense, aimed at raising awareness about racial discrimination.

**AWARENESS:** The event All different - All equal was held in **Bessancourt** (95) under the initiative of the City's Children's Municipal Council. It aimed to educate children about respecting differences and promoting equality.

**IN LIBRARIES:** The City of **Metz** (57) launched a communication campaign, Il ne manque plus que vous ("All that's missing is you"), to promote its libraries and media centers. The campaign highlights free membership and the variety of services offered. A national campaign was also launched in 2023 by the Ministry of Culture to showcase libraries as primary local cultural spaces and encourage public engagement. The libraries of **Paris** (75) launched the En quête d'info Festival, featuring various events focused on information literacy and media education.

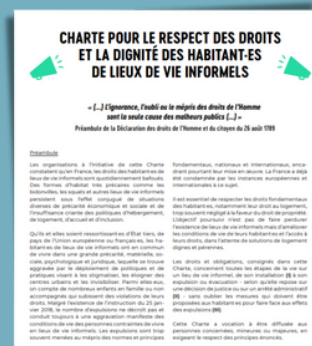


## Charter of Rights for Residents of Informal Living Spaces

The charter for the respect of rights and dignity of residents in informal living spaces emerged from a collaborative inter-associative initiative aimed at raising awareness about the rights of people living in informal spaces (camps, squats, slums, etc.).

As a key advocacy tool, the CNDH Romeurope uses this charter to promote and recognize the rights and dignity of people living in these spaces, helping to improve practices, living conditions, and the relocation options available to residents.

In partnership with ANVITA, a guide on best practices for Municipalities will be developed, along with a training module to educate elected officials and municipal staff on these issues.



**COLLECTIF**  
NATIONAL DROITS DE L'HOMME  
**ROMEUROPE**

# RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS

## (Inter)cultural agenda



**Cultural events make it possible to reach a wider audience and raise awareness about migration and intercultural issues.**

**FESTIVALS:** The City of **Strasbourg** (67) is the **UNESCO World Book Capital 2024**. Its program *Lire notre Monde* ("Read Our World"), structured around five key themes including "City of Refuge," reaffirms that culture and reading are tools for peace, the defense of human rights, and intercultural exchange. The City of **Bordeaux** (33) celebrated inclusion and diversity with numerous performances, conferences, and participatory workshops during the 11th edition of the Equality and Diversity Fortnight. Besançon Métropole, supported by the City of **Besançon** (25), organized the *Livres dans la Boucle* festival featuring meetings, readings, and concerts open to everyone, with off-site activities designed to reach all audiences.

**WEEKS OF ACTION:** As part of Integration Week, the City of **Besançon** (25) coordinated an afternoon of meetings and exchanges at City Hall between newly arrived residents and social service actors. The City of **Paris** (75) organized the 8th edition of its Paris Week Against Racism and Antisemitism, featuring a rich program of events and awareness activities to promote equality.

**INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY:** On December 18, International Migrants Day, a panel discussion on media coverage of migration, led by Désinfox-Migrations, was held at the **Montreuil Municipal Library** (93).

**COMBATING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION:** For the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21, the City of **Villeurbanne** (69) organized a lecture with Delphine Peiretti on her book *Corps noirs. Médecins blancs*. The City of **Nancy** (54) hosted the public at City Hall for a theatrical conference titled *La rhétorique de la haine* by Martine Derrier and Gérard Noiriel. In Grenoble (38), Douce Dibondo presented her book *La Charge raciale* in the City Hall's Honor Room. The City of **Marseille** (13) launched the Ibrahim Ali Prize to recognize positive initiatives combating racism and discrimination in its elementary schools. During this national event, many **public libraries** highlighted a selection of resources to raise awareness on these issues.

### AGENDA OF INTERNATIONAL DAYS

#### JANUARY

- 23 Loneliness
- 24 Education

#### FEBRUARY

- 6 Commemoration
- 20 Social justice
- 21 Mother language

#### MARCH

- 8 Women's Rights
- 15 Against Islamophobia
- 21 Elimination of racial discriminations

#### APRIL

- 6 Health
- 7 Romani
- 23 Book
- 26 Voting rights for all

#### MAY

- 1 Labour
- 16 Living together in Peace
- 21 Cultural diversity

#### JUNE

- 12 Loving Day
- 15 Against hunger
- 18 Countering hate speech
- 20 Refugee
- 26 Support for victims of torture

#### JULY

- 30 Friendship
- 30 against Trafficking in Persons

#### AUGUST

- 19 Humanitarian Aid
- 30 Victims of enforced disappearances

#### SEPTEMBER

- 8 Alphabetisation
- 15 Democracy
- 21 Peace

#### OCTOBER

- 10 Homelessness
- 16 Food
- 17 Eradication of poverty

#### NOVEMBER

- 16 Tolerance
- 20 Children's rights
- 25 Elimination of violence against women

#### DECEMBER

- 5 Volunteering
- 10 Human rights
- 18 Migrants
- 20 Human solidarity

## Information and communication



**Informing and communicating with residents is essential for maintaining dialogue, dismantling preconceived notions, and promoting a welcoming and caring culture throughout the territory.**

**SCREENINGS:** Film discussions offer a space for reflection and dialogue that help raise public awareness, challenge stereotypes, and promote a message of welcome. Two films from the ALIMENTERRE festival were screened in the **Communauté de Communes du Clunisois** (71), to reflect on the challenges facing our food and agricultural systems. Elected officials from **Forges** (17) and **Ramonville-Saint-Agne** (31) took part in post-screening discussions of the documentary *Un paese di resistenza* by Shu Aiello and Catherine Catella. For the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, the City of Le **Relecq-Kerhuon** (29) organized a screening of *I, Daniel Blake* by Ken Loach.

**WELCOME TO EUROPE:** The documentary *Welcome to Europe*, directed by Thomas Bornot and Cyril Montana, seeks to deconstruct common misconceptions about exiled people through portraits and interviews with those directly affected or engaged in solidarity efforts. It is supported by **Alfortville** (94), **Besançon** (25), **Bourges** (18), **Clermont-Ferrand** (63), **La Flèche** (72), **Malakoff** (92), **Marseille** (13), **Nancy** (54), **Paris** (75), Rennes (35), **Tours** (37), **Villeurbanne**, the **Lyon Métropole** (69), **CC Diois** (26), and the Centre-Val de Loire Region, which will organize screenings in 2025.

**NIGHTS OF READING:** The 2025 edition of this major nationwide celebration of books for everyone, focused on the theme of personal and collective “heritages.” On this occasion, the Alcazar Library in **Marseille** (13) hosted a reading of texts on exile, recounting the arrival and experiences of displaced people. In **Strasbourg** (67), the Mayor took part in storytelling sessions and nursery rhyme readings held in multiple languages at the Meinau Media Library. In **Grenoble** (38), the Colombine Library welcomed a reading of poems by Tahar Djaout accompanied by music by Amine Mekki-Berrada.

**IN LIBRARIES:** The traveling exhibition *Comics and Migration: Thinking Outside the Box*, which explores the historical relationship between the development of comic art and migration movements, was presented at the Leïla Slimani Media Library in **Bourges** (18). The **Ornans** Media Library (25) opened its doors for an event with author Allou Hamidou Bah, centered on his book *Clandestin*, which recounts the story of a young Guinean forced into exile. The exhibition *Yesterday There, Today Here* by the association Forum Réfugiés was hosted at the Jean Macé Library in **Lyon** (69).

## Taking over public space



**Local authorities can take action to make public space accessible to everyone and turn it into a place for raising awareness and accessing rights.**

**OUTREACH:** The first “Point Bibli” was inaugurated in **Bordeaux** (33) to facilitate access to culture and books outside traditional library spaces. As UNESCO World Book Capital 2024, the City of **Strasbourg** (67) installed **mini-libraries in medico-social centers** and CCAS locations for people waiting for appointments.

**WALKS:** The City of **Arcueil** (94) offers neighborhood walks with elected officials and municipal staff to encourage dialogue and allow residents to rediscover their neighborhoods. The City of **Schiltigheim** (67) inaugurated its “Path of Equality,” an educational trail highlighting ten key figures in the fight against discrimination. **The Libraries of Marseille** (13) organized walks retracing the history of forced journeys and shedding light on contemporary issues of exile.

**EXHIBITIONS:** Photographs of refugee athletes were displayed on the walls of the Caserne Napoléon, near **Paris** City Hall (75), on the occasion of World Refugee Day and the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The City of **Rouen** (76) displayed portraits of residents facing deportation orders on the façade of the Town Hall, alongside the republican motto “fraternity,” accompanied by the message: “Is this the France we want?”

**UNISOL:** The first UniSol festival, dedicated to solidarity initiatives, took place in **Bordeaux** (33) on Place Pey-Berland and at City Hall. This festive day of discovery and exchange aimed to raise public awareness of various social causes through conferences, concerts, an NGO village, and a solidarity banquet.

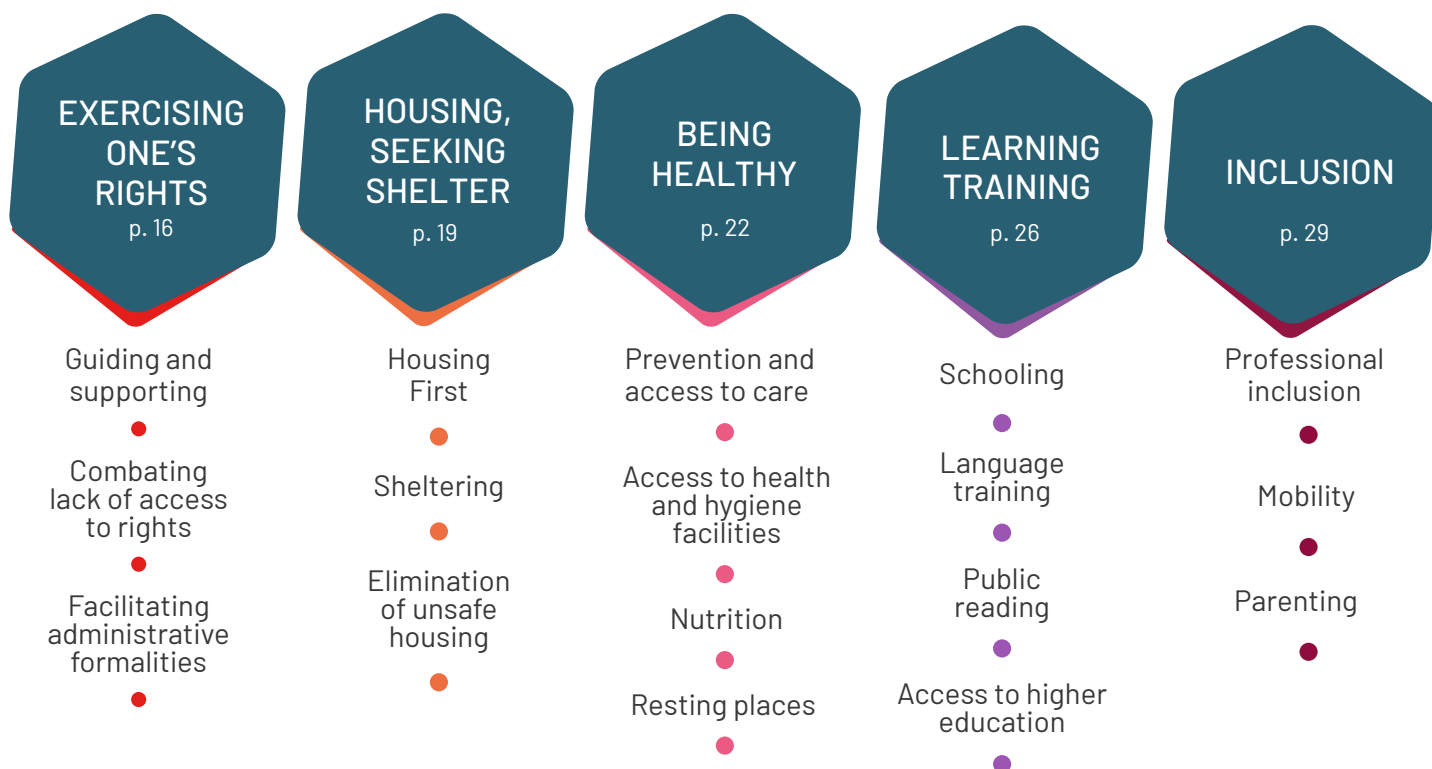
# RECOMMENDATIONS



# ENCOURAGING UNCONDITIONAL ACCESS TO RIGHTS



Ensuring unconditional access to rights is fully in line with the commitments of the Charter for Unconditional Welcome, to which ANVITA members adhere. While the State remains responsible for defining the conditions of reception for people in exile, local actors, particularly local authorities, have a significant impact on these conditions through their direct actions or by filling gaps left by the State. Libraries, as open and accessible spaces for everyone, play a major role in this dynamic by facilitating access to information and cultural resources and by providing social spaces essential for the inclusion and support of people in situations of vulnerability and precariousness.



# EXERCISING ONE'S RIGHTS

## Guiding and supporting



To ensure access to rights for people in exile, it is essential to guide and support them from the moment they arrive, especially since the reception process can be complex. Local authorities play a key role in making information clearer and more accessible.

**GUIDES:** Several local authorities work with their CCAS to produce practical guides aimed at people in situations of extreme precarity and/or in exile. These guides list the services, associations, and support available to meet essential needs. Among those published in 2024–2025 are the practical guide by the CCAS of **Bègles** (33), the *Essential Needs Guide* of the City of **Tours** (37), the *Poitiers Solidarités Guide* of the City of **Poitiers** (86), and the *guide for foreign residents* by the Commune of **Périgueux** (24).

**IN LIBRARIES:** The Jacques Demy and Luce de Courville libraries in the City of **Nantes** (44) host the CCAS once a month as part of the Nantes Solidarity Information Point, allowing the public to learn about available services and receive guidance from a staff member. The Alcazar Municipal Library in **Marseille** (13) has set up an information desk at the entrance to facilitate access to information for all users.

**DIGITAL INCLUSION:** The CCAS of **Alfortville** (94) and the **Phénix Library in Metz** (57) offer free digital support sessions without prior appointment. The CCAS of **Lambersart** (59) provides a digital access point with the option to book an appointment with a trained staff member, while a CCAS advisor in **Ornans** (25) runs basic computer training sessions. In **Melle** (79), **Poitiers** (86), and **Montpellier** (34), municipal or France Service digital advisors provide support in libraries.

**CAREGIVERS:** The “Caravane des aidants” program, supported by the Department of **Seine-Saint-Denis** (93), provided information on caregiver status over two days in collaboration with the CCAS of **Bobigny** (93). The City of **Bordeaux** (33) set up a “Caregivers Desk” to assist family members in their procedures and offer psychological support. The City of **Nantes** (44) runs a “House of Caregivers,” which has provided in-home visits since 2019.

## Combating lack of access to rights



Establishing support services and resource centers is essential to combat barriers to accessing rights and to ensure effective access to rights, information, and services.

**MUNICIPAL HEALTH INSURANCE:** Several Municipalities offer a municipal health insurance plan with rates negotiated by the local authority to make supplementary health coverage more accessible for all residents. This is the case for the Municipalities of **Montpellier** (34), **Montreuil** (93), **Saint-Badolph** (73), and **Yvelon** (50).

**ANTI-DISCRIMINATION:** The City of **Nantes** (44) has set up the Network of Actors for Vigilance and Action Against Discrimination (RAVADis), which brings together local actors and organizations to prevent and combat discrimination. Practical and educational guides, AntidiscrimNantes, are also available online for those who want to equip themselves. The City of **Lyon** (69) has relaunched the Access to Rights and Anti-Discrimination program (ADAD), providing legal advice sessions and coordinating a network to monitor and combat employment discrimination.

**RESOURCE CENTERS:** The City of **Blois** (18) inaugurated the Abri Gisèle Halimi, a welcoming space for women and LGBTQIA+ individuals, bringing together five organizations engaged in the protection and support of victims of discrimination and violence. La Trêve, a reception and orientation center for people in exile in the City of **Strasbourg** (67), has reopened in a new location and will soon include a library space. The City of **Lyon** (69) organized training sessions for associations supporting people in exile to prevent misguidance.

**IN LIBRARIES:** Free membership and borrowing are key measures to ensure access to culture. The Cities of **Bordeaux** (33), **Grenoble** (38), **Nantes** (44), **Paris** (75), **Rouen** (76), **Rennes** (35), **Tours** (37), and **Villeurbanne** (69) have implemented these measures.

## Facilitating administrative formalities



Access to rights also requires making administrative procedures easier, by ensuring they are accessible and supporting people in understanding them.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Lyon (69) has translated its civil status documents, maternal and child protection (PMI) documents, and early childhood materials into the six most widely spoken languages in the area. On the website of the **Libraries of the City of Paris** (75), documents about rules, access information, and available services are translated into 12 languages. The City also provides a series of translated videos for multinational wedding ceremonies.

**PUBLIC SCRIBES:** Volunteer public scribes are available in the libraries of **Lyon** (69), **Marseille** (13), **Metz** (57), **Montpellier** (34), **Montreuil** (93), **Nantes** (44), **Paris** (75), and **Villeurbanne** (69) to assist people with written

procedures. In **Rouen** (76), the SOS Paperwork program is deployed at the Châtelet Library by City staff.

**EASY-TO-READ AND UNDERSTAND:** The City of **Strasbourg** (67) has produced an Easy-to-Read and Understand Guide (FALC) titled "How do I apply for social housing?". On the websites of the Métropole and the City of **Nantes** (44), several sections are written in FALC. Many **libraries** make FALC resources freely available, for example in **Chambéry**, **Cognin**, and **Saint-Badolph** (73). These resources are particularly useful for people who are less literate, non-French speakers, illiterate, or have disabilities.

### DID YOU KNOW ?

A Maison France Services was inaugurated in **Bordeaux** (33) to facilitate access to public services and combat inequalities. Across France, there are 2,800 such centers, bringing together 12 partner organizations to centralize administrative procedures in a single location. In 2023, the ANCT issued a directive restricting these centers from assisting with residency procedures or providing support to foreign nationals.

## The right to a private and family life



In its guide *Unconditional Reception from a Legal Perspective*, aimed at local authorities, ANVITA lists the fundamental unconditional rights. In the 2025 edition of the guide, this list was expanded to include the right to respect for private and family life, a right whose defense is the main focus of the association Les **Amoureux au Ban Public**.

Supporting binational couples in their administrative procedures (marriage, recognition of parenthood, etc.), the association carries out valuable monitoring and advocacy work to ensure access to the right to a fulfilling marital and family life.

In February 2025, alongside Les Amoureux au Ban Public, ANVITA raised the alarm about the dangers of a proposed law aiming to prohibit the celebration of marriages if one of the spouses has incomplete legal status.



# RECOMMENDATIONS





## Housing first

**Housing policies aim to ensure long-term inclusion in mainstream services. Local authorities contribute by making vacant land available, developing social housing, and strengthening land-use regulation tools.**

**PROVISION:** Several local authorities make their municipal housing stock available to provide long-term accommodation for people facing hardship. This is the case in **Bordeaux** (33), **Granville** (50), and **Le Percy** (38). The latter allocates the income from its municipal guest houses to fund an emergency housing unit for people in difficulty.

The City of **Louvigny** (14) makes available, from September to June, the apartment usually reserved for lifeguards to house people without accommodation.

In **Ornans** (25), the Municipality provided a family with a municipal dwelling for two years, offering them a stable housing solution. In **Pont-Péan** (35), the Municipality supports the reception of exiled people by making a dwelling available to the association Réfugiés Bruz.

**RENTAL MEASURES:** The City of **Tours** (37) is experimenting with taking over the lease of social housing tenants in difficulty to prevent evictions, keeping people in their homes and combating homelessness. **Grenoble Alpes Métropole** (38) is testing rent control until the end of 2026 to curb real-estate speculation and prevent the eviction of low-income households.

**LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS:** A seventh social residence and family hostel has been inaugurated in **Montpellier** (34), providing suitable accommodation for people facing severe hardship who need long-term stability. The City of **Marseille** (13) is reinvesting the vacant Côme site, integrating into the project a hospitality house for the 22 young people supported by the Collectif 113, who are themselves renovating their future housing units.

## Failure to Assist People Living in Poor Housing Conditions

In February 2025, the Collective of associations for housing (CAL, Collectif des associations pour le logement) filed two legal appeals for State failure: the first concerning the lack of places and the conditions in the emergency accommodation system, the second concerning the enforceable right to housing (DALO) and the failure to guarantee access to this right. These two appeals were brought together under a joint advocacy campaign by the 40 member organizations of CAL: "Failure to assist people living in poor housing conditions."

A petition helped publicize the launch of the legal action, and ANVITA is an individual claimant in the appeal related to emergency accommodation.

This inter-associative initiative complements the "Ultime Recours des Villes" (Ultimate Appeal of Cities) action launched by the Cities of **Strasbourg** (67), **Bordeaux** (33), **Grenoble** (38), **Lyon** (69), **Rennes** (35), later joined by the City of **Paris** (75) and the **Métropole de Lyon** (69). In March 2025, the Administrative Court of Grenoble ruled in favor of the City and ordered the State to reimburse the expenses incurred by the Grenoble CCAS to compensate for its "wrongful failure to act."



## Sheltering



**Emergency accommodation, which falls under State responsibility, represents the first step in any reception policy. Faced with the increase in emergency situations and homelessness, local actors are committing to practices that ensure unconditional shelter.**

**SHELTERING:** The City of **Tours** (37) made a gymnasium available for 40 people living on the street, before mobilizing the Regional Omnisports Technical Center to accommodate 60 people until the end of the winter truce. An Emergency Accommodation Center (CHU) was set up in the municipal hall of **Lambersart** (59) for 45 single men. The City of **Strasbourg** (67) is funding and providing 5 tiny houses for families living on the street with school-enrolled children. The association **L'Étage** is providing social support for two years. **Argenton-sur-Creuse** (36) is welcoming new places in its Asylum Seekers Reception Center (CADA) following the cancellation of the project in **Bélâbre** (36). **Libraries** are carrying out outreach activities in CADA facilities, such as in **Limoux** (11) for the project "Je me suis exilé," supported by the **Occitanie** Region.

**ACCOMMODATION DEDICATED TO WOMEN:** The Decomberousse Reception House was opened by the **Métropole de Lyon** and the City of **Villeurbanne** (69) and offers accommodation for single women with children under 3 years old. For fourteen years, the City of **Montreuil** (93) has made a gymnasium available each year to accommodate 25 women experiencing homelessness.

**RECEPTION CENTER:** A temporary reception center, co-funded by the City of **Bordeaux** (33) and the State, was set up after the evacuation of a camp to house people experiencing addiction and living with animals. In **Nantes** (44), the Mellinet accommodation center hosts people who use drugs, people with psychiatric disorders, and people with animals who are not supported elsewhere, offering individual housing units. The City has recently opened a temporary shelter with around twenty places in partnership with Les Eaux Vives Emmaüs.

**MEANWHILE USE HOUSING:** Meanwhile use housing is a social emergency practice that consists of mobilizing vacant buildings to accommodate people in highly precarious situations. The meanwhile units provided by the City of **Villeurbanne** (69) accommodate 700 people. In **Strasbourg** (67), there are currently 12 meanwhile units, including a house left unoccupied for more than six months, which now hosts three families. In **Lyon** (69), vacant private premises were opened by the City to house 160 young people experiencing homelessness for one year.

## Elimination of unsafe housing



**Policies aimed at eliminating substandard and unsafe housing and informal living areas are essential to ensuring dignified housing for everyone, and thus to combating territorial inequalities and discrimination in access to fundamental rights.**

**EVENTS:** The second edition of the National days of the Network of Cities Against Unsafe Housing was held in **Bordeaux** (33). It provided an opportunity to assess the current situation and discuss strategies to combat inadequate housing. The City Hall of **Tours** (37) hosted the 17th National day on the Reception and Housing of Travellers, which included working groups on living conditions in reception areas and respect for fundamental rights.

**HOUSING:** The City of **Lambersart** (59) is developing a housing project for 11 Traveller families who have become settled. In **Mérignac** (33), a temporary platform hosts around thirty people following the dismantling of a shantytown, providing access to hygiene facilities and support toward employment.

**TOOLS:** Many Municipalities have introduced a mandatory "rental permit" for landlords, aimed at guaranteeing decent housing and combating substandard conditions. This is the case in **Bordeaux** (33), **Le Vigan** (30) and **Rennes Métropole** (35). The City of **Cherbourg-en-Cotentin** (50) has signed an agreement with the State and is committed to identifying and reporting dangerous housing, prosecuting slumlords and protecting tenants facing precarity.

**MOBILE TEAM:** The **Métropole de Lyon** (69) supports the IMPALHA initiative (Multidisciplinary Mobile Intervention to Support Living Environments). It aims to secure buildings, improve living conditions, reinforce access to rights and provide local social support in informal living areas.

# RECOMMENDATIONS



## Prevention and access to care



**Facilitating access to healthcare for people in situations of precarity is a major public health challenge. Municipalities and libraries play a key role by supporting local initiatives and tailored programs to ensure accessible care.**

**RESOURCE CENTERS:** The CCAS of the Municipality of **Allonnes** (72) opened *L'Escale*, a free reception and listening center open to everyone. This space offers a varied program, including a health and wellness cycle with socio-aesthetic workshops, sports activities, and sessions on mental health. The City of **Marseille** (13), in partnership with health promotion and prevention associations, set up a week-long health village in Bougainville Park. The event provided a comprehensive health pathway, aiming to reduce social and territorial inequalities in access to healthcare.

**MOBILE TEAMS:** The Maternal and Child Protection Service (PMI) of the **Seine-Saint-Denis** Department (93) has a mobile team dedicated to facilitating access to healthcare rights. This initiative is part of its “pregnant woman pathway”, aimed at reducing infant and perinatal mortality. Specific support is also offered to women without social coverage. The City of **Montpellier** (34) also has a mobile health prevention unit, designed to reach all audiences and reduce social and territorial health inequalities. It provides first access to health rights through screenings, vaccination sessions, and awareness-raising activities.

**REGULAR SERVICES:** The CCAS of the City of **Poitiers** (86) offers weekly healthcare rights consultations in partnership with the Centre de Santé des 3 Cités, which supports people facing difficulties accessing care. The CCAS of **Strasbourg** (67) also organizes weekly sessions in partnership with local organizations.

**MENTAL HEALTH:** As part of Strasbourg's World Book Capital 2024, the City of **Strasbourg** (67) organized **bibliotherapy sessions** for people with migratory backgrounds. During Mental Health Awareness Week, several Municipalities organized events in their territories. This includes the Municipalities of **Bourges** (18) and **Dieulefit** (26), which offered programs exploring the link between physical activity and mental health, including conferences, film debates, and living libraries.

**SCREENING:** The Public Health Directorate of the City of **Paris** (75) launched a breast cancer screening awareness campaign featuring testimonies from affected women in French, Arabic, and Chinese. The initiative also highlighted the mobile service “Mammo Solidaire”.

## Access to health and hygiene facilities



**As guarantors of public health, Municipalities and intercommunal authorities ensure access to sanitary and hygiene facilities for residents facing situations of vulnerability and precariousness.**

**IN LIBRARIES:** Libraries are accessible to everyone, providing sanitary facilities such as toilets, sinks, and drinking water points.

In **Nantes** (44), free menstrual hygiene product dispensers have been installed in many public spaces, including municipal libraries.

**COMMUNITY LAUNDRY:** The City of **Lyon** (69) has opened a community laundry below the municipal baths and showers. A second bath and shower facility is also planned and is expected to open by 2027.

**DRINKING WATER:** The City of **Grenoble** (38) has renovated around twenty drinking fountains across the City thanks to the participatory budget.

## Nutrition



**Access to healthy, sustainable, and high-quality food is a major public health issue. Local authorities play a key role in supporting short food supply chains, food assistance programs, and awareness-raising initiatives targeting the most vulnerable populations.**

**SOLIDARITY GROCERY STORE:** The City of **La Talaudière** (42) opened the solidarity grocery store *Le Ricochet* within its municipal social center, aimed at families in difficulty. Food aid is granted according to a scale, giving a monthly purchase allowance. The **Communauté de Communes du Clunisois** (71) provides material and financial support to the associations Étap and InCluniso, which launched a mobile solidarity grocery store. Products, donated or sold at reduced prices, come from supermarket surplus.

**FOOD VOUCHER:** The Department of **Seine-Saint-Denis** (93), in partnership with Action Against Hunger, launched the Vital'im card: a €50 monthly food allowance per person, valid in selected stores. The goal is to fight food insecurity and raise awareness about healthy and sustainable eating through workshops.

**HEALTHY FOOD:** The City of **Villeurbanne** (69) launched an initiative allowing beneficiaries to select healthy, local, and quality products, which are then donated to the Food Bank and other associations, improving the quality of food distributed through food aid programs.

**DONATIONS:** In a move to combat both food insecurity and waste, the Municipality of **Castanet-Tolosan** (31) established a donation agreement for food from school canteens to be redistributed to food aid associations.

**IN LIBRARIES:** Solidarity breakfasts have been organized by the association Le Garage Moderne in several libraries in **Bordeaux** (33). As the winner of a municipal call for projects, the association offers these events to people in extreme precarity, supported by a librarian to help with document research or administrative procedures. The Salvation Army and La Chorba also offer breakfasts in cultural spaces, such as libraries, combined with artistic discovery sessions. The City of **Paris** (75) supports this initiative, which nourishes both body and mind for people in great precarity.

**REGULAR SESSIONS:** For over ten years, the City of **Nantes** (44) has offered a summer service providing a place for discussion, coffee, and packed lunches for people in need, thanks to the mobilization of local associations.

## Resting places



**Les dispositifs d'accueil de jour constituent des espaces essentiels pour garantir le bien-être des personnes exilées. Ces lieux fournissent à la fois un répit et un accès à divers services.**

**IN LIBRARIES:** By being open to everyone without condition, libraries provide a space for rest and relaxation for many people experiencing precarity or exile. Special attention can be given to welcoming these audiences by ensuring a friendly and easily identifiable environment. This is the case in **Poitiers** (86), where the François Mitterrand Media Library has a welcoming area for eating, charging phones, and reading the press.

**COMMUNITY SPACE:** The City of **Loos-en-Gohelle** (62) has transformed its digital space into a social living area, open to all residents. It offers a variety of activities as well as a **library space**.

**DAYTIME RECEPTION:** The City of **Nantes** (44) runs the "Daytime Reception for Young Migrants" initiative to improve support for migrant youth aged 16-25. This partnership project supports a network of local actors and fosters collective reflection on their needs. Additional financial support was also granted to two structures providing these daytime reception services.

**THIRD PLACE:** **Lyon Métropole** (69) supports the Grandes Voisines project, led by Plateau Urbain, the Foyer Notre-Dame des Sans-Abri, and the Salvation Army. This social and solidarity-focused third place brings together five shelters, offices, workshops for employment integration, a health hub, and a toy library.

## Paris 2024: Olympic and Paralympic Games



On the occasion of the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, many local authorities organized festive and sports events in their territories to promote sports as a tool for inclusion and social connection.

**AT SCHOOL:** On the occasion of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the City of **Clermont-Ferrand** (63) celebrated sports with a varied program in its schools. The activities included sports challenges and artistic workshops, all highlighting the values of Olympism. As part of the "Terre de Jeux 2024" label, the City of **Hendaye** (64) organized "Hendaye 2024, Inter-School Olympic Games" to promote physical activity in an inclusive setting. Each school represented a different continent through a range of sports and cultural activities.

**PROGRAMMING:** The City of **Besançon** and Grand Besançon Métropole (25) took advantage of the Games to highlight local sports initiatives, with over 25 key events organized under the "Tous Athlètes" program, offering sports initiation sessions open to everyone. The City also purchased tickets to attend the Games, which were distributed through sports clubs, neighborhood centers, and the Crous. In addition, the City regularly organizes events called "La rue est à nous" to foster community interaction and the reclamation of public spaces. Activities focused on sports, well-being, and nutrition were offered across different neighborhoods.

The City of **Granville** (50) also organized a public program combining sports and culture, including sports sessions followed by visits to exhibitions showcasing the residents' engagement in physical activity.

**SOLIDARITY:** Hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the City of **Paris** (75) offered a rich program to foster social cohesion, solidarity, and inclusion through sports. The Fabrique de la Solidarité, a civic engagement hub and program run by the City, organized numerous events, including an exhibition on the Night of Solidarity, a parade of residents from an emergency housing centers, a solidarity ball, and a migration mural. A collection of sports clothing and accessories was also carried out.

**OLYMPIADS:** The City of **Saint-Denis** (93) organized the 4th edition of its Games of Solidarity, led by several municipal services and associations working in employment, integration, and social solidarity. The festive and sporting event targets populations who are distant from regular sports practice. In **Allonnes** (72), foreign delegations were welcomed, and meetings with local residents were organized by the Municipality. Additional olympiads were held to introduce residents to the City's clubs, aiming to strengthen solidarity and community spirit.

**IN LIBRARIES:** As part of the Cultural Olympiad, the City of **Paris** (75) launched the "Bibliolympiades" in 2022, a library-based program promoting cultural diversity and inclusion. Outreach activities were also organized at Olympic venues. Other Cities, such as **Bordeaux** (33), **Montpellier** (34), **Strasbourg** (67), and **Tours** (37), also organized events in collaboration with their libraries.

### Le revers de la médaille



Le Revers de la Médaille brought together around one hundred associations and solidarity organizations working daily with people in precarious situations. The collective's overall goal was to raise awareness of the social impact of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Through symbolic and activist actions, the group aimed to denounce the exclusionary effects linked to the Games' organization and to promote a genuinely positive social legacy.

Since 2023, the collective has documented the situation of people living on the streets or in precarious housing, in order to measure and make visible the long-term impacts of the so-called social "clean-up" implemented ahead of the Games. After the Games, the collective published a report summarizing all of these findings.

# RECOMMENDATIONS



## Schooling



**Education is a fundamental lever for social inclusion and civic participation. Local authorities have a legal and moral responsibility to guarantee effective access for all, without distinction.**

**PROGRAM:** The City of **Schiltigheim** (67) launched the “Coup de pouce” program, led by the eponymous association. This project offers personalized support to students, aiming to promote their academic success and personal development, while also involving parents, who receive guidance to support their parental role.

**IN LIBRARIES:** Special visits and welcome sessions in libraries are organized for allophone students, notably in **Nantes** (44), **Tours** (37), and **Savigny-le-Temple** (77), to help them familiarize themselves with the spaces and discover the collections. To democratize library access for students, the inter-Municipality Est Ensemble (93) sent library cards to thousands of first-grade students across the territory, followed by guided visits.

**WELCOMING SCHOOL:** The City of **Villeurbanne** (69) created a guide for professionals who welcome and educate children living in severe poverty. Co-written with school mediators, families, and teachers, the guide provides recommendations and resources to foster an inclusive reception for all students.

**EVENT:** **Fontenay-sous-Bois** (94) organized a Back to school event around the themes of education, solidarity, and culture. This festive event allowed students to receive school supply kits adapted to their grade level. The occasion also marked the inauguration of the “mediabus,” a traveling library that circulates through neighborhoods far from libraries as well as schools.

## Language training



**Language learning is a cornerstone of social inclusion and access to rights. Local authorities have a responsibility to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to learn and receive training, in order to promote full and active participation in social and civic life.**

**CONVERSATION WORKSHOPS:** French conversation workshops led by librarians are organized in the libraries and media libraries of **Bobigny** (93), **Fontenay-sous-Bois** (94), **Grenoble** (38), **Nantes** (44), **Périgueux** (24), **Poitiers** (86), and **Rouen** (76). These friendly sessions help participants build social connections while improving their oral skills. In **Nantes** (44), practical training was provided to public reading staff to improve, standardize, and expand the offer of conversation workshops.

**VISIT:** The **Gennevilliers** (92) Media Library organizes an inclusion pathway for users of the social and cultural center’s language workshops. This program aims to introduce participants to the library, its activities, and also includes playful, educational events.

**ORIENTATION:** The **François Mitterrand Library** of Grand Poitiers (86) hosts Infolang sessions, which guide people toward French language learning opportunities in the

area. Led by the ALPHA Collective, this program is also supported by the City of **Poitiers** (86).

**COLLECTIONS:** Libraries can promote the inclusion of allophone audiences by offering collections of French as a Foreign Language (FLE) learning materials, as seen in **Cluny** (71), **Gennevilliers** (92), **Melle** (79), **Nantes** (44), and **Poitiers** (86).

**COURSES:** FLE courses are offered by the CCAS of the Commune of **Prades-le-Lez** (34). The **Périgueux** (24) Media Library provides FLE courses led by the Maison 24 association, supported by the City. The **Rouen Normandie Métropole** (76) organizes parent-child language courses for newly arrived or refugee families. The **Communauté de Communes du Clunisois** (71) hosted a French course in its media library, followed by a tour of the library and an introduction to poetry.

## Public reading



**Facilitating access to public libraries for underserved and allophone communities is essential to ensure cultural rights for everyone. Libraries play a key role as spaces of unconditional welcome, cultural mediation, and social inclusion.**

**MULTILINGUAL COLLECTION:** The municipal library of **Bobigny** (93) has established a collection of books in the most widely spoken languages in the area. This collection is regularly updated. The **Grenoble** International Municipal Library (38) is dedicated to foreign language books, with an extensive collection available in seven languages as well as a rich program of activities. Libraries and media libraries in **Metz** (57), **Montpellier** (34), **Nantes** (44), **Paris** (75), **Poitiers** (86), **Rouen** (76), and Savigny-le-Temple (77) also have collections in foreign languages.

**EASY-TO-READ MATERIALS:** Libraries can also offer reading materials designed for people with limited language skills or learning difficulties. "Easy-to-read" sections are clearly identified, and mediation is provided to engage individuals who are less familiar with reading. This is the case in libraries in **Grenoble** (38), **Montpellier** (34), **Metz** (57), **Nantes** (44), **Paris** (75), **Poitiers** (86), and **Rouen** (76).

**COLLECTION:** The association Tissé Mëtisse manages a collection from the Intercultural Documentation Center, entrusted by the City of **Nantes** (44). This publicly accessible collection focuses on migration, interculturality, memory, and discrimination issues, and also hosts temporary exhibitions. The **Grenoble** International Municipal Library (38) and the James Baldwin Media Library in **Paris** (75) also maintain specialized collections on these topics.

**"MY BOOK BAG" PROJECT:** Bibliothèques Sans Frontières runs the "*Mon sac de livres*" project, which provides exiled pupils in France with a backpack filled with books selected by their peers. The City of **Strasbourg** (67) participated in this project as part of its UNESCO World Book Capital 2024 designation, enabling 150 children in the area to receive a book bag.

## Access to higher education



**Supporting the continuation or resumption of education for foreign nationals, especially those in exile, is vital for their social and economic integration. Local authorities can facilitate this through a range of initiatives.**

**TRAINING:** The 3aMIE association offers training programs for young migrants who are excluded from formal educational pathways. It supports them toward autonomy in their academic or professional projects, up to obtaining a diploma or certification through daily courses. This initiative is supported, among others, by the City of **Grenoble** (38). The President of **Grenoble Alpes Métropole** (38) also presided over the graduation ceremony for the 2024 cohort.

**RECEPTION:** The MAEVA program aims to improve the reception of foreign students at the University of Poitiers by offering guidance and support from volunteers. The initiative is supported by the University, the City of **Poitiers** and Grand Poitiers (86).

**WORKING GROUP:** ANVITA, l'Association des Villes Universitaires de France (AVUF), and the MEnS Network launched a working group on access to higher education for students in exile. A webinar was organized on this topic, featuring interventions from the UniR association, the City of Sceaux (92), and the DU Passerelle program at University Lyon 3. Local authorities from **Clermont-Ferrand** (63), **Grenoble Métropole** (38), **Marseille** (13), Metz Métropole (57), and **Paris** (75) participated.

**IN LIBRARIES:** University libraries associated with partner universities hosting students or researchers in exile can play a role by providing documentary resources and adapted workshops (FLE, guidance, access to rights).

# RECOMMENDATIONS



## Professional inclusion



**People in exile encounter numerous peripheral barriers and obstacles to their professional integration. Their access to employment is legally conditional on their administrative status. It is therefore necessary to develop tools to facilitate their inclusion.**

**CTAI:** In 2024, a *Contrat Territorial d'Accueil et d'Intégration* (CTAI, Territorial Reception and Integration Contract) was signed between the Communauté de Communes Saint-Marcellin Vercors Isère, the Municipality de **Notre-Dame-de-l'Osier** (38), the Département de l'Isère, and the State, benefiting the insertion structure Tero Loko located in Notre-Dame-de-l'Osier. The objective of this CTAI is to support this cross-cutting reception and integration project between the Municipality and the Tero Loko association, which enables the social and professional insertion of people in precarious situations on the territory, as well as beneficiaries of international protection, through gardening and bakery activities.

**FORUM:** The City of **Paris** (75) organized a forum for the professional integration of refugees at the Maison des Réfugiés. More than sixty companies, support structures, and training organizations were present to meet participants. Workshops for CV writing and language assessment were also offered on site.

**RESOURCE SPACES:** Two resource spaces dedicated to inclusion were created in **Chambéry** (74), called *Espaces Déclit*, aimed at people without employment, training, or support. Open to all, these spaces aim to rebuild social connections, facilitate access to rights, and gradually guide participants toward autonomy and employment. These spaces are run and supported by the City and local partners.

**IN LIBRARIES:** Municipal libraries can offer workshops to support the professional integration of marginalized audiences, notably through CV and handwritten cover letter assistance or digital tools, as is the case in **Lyon** (69), **Montreuil** (93), and **Rouen** (76).

**SUPPORT:** The Conseil Départemental de la **Seine-Saint-Denis** (93) supports the association La Marmite, which manages a day center with health prevention activities. The association also runs an insertion workshop and worksite in catering to facilitate the integration of people distant from employment. The Municipality of **Die** (26) and the **Communauté de communes du Pays Diois** (26) support the association La Trame, an OACAS, which is engaged in welcoming, supporting, and integrating exiled persons in the Diois area through solidarity activities, notably via its insertion restaurant.

**PROGRAM:** The City of **Mérignac** (33) and the Département de la **Gironde** (33) support the project « Talents aiguilles » led by Alios Formation and the Youth Center of Mérignac (MJC), which aims to promote the professional inclusion of allophone women in the textile sector. The six-month training program provides technical skills in this field, as well as French, mathematics, and sales. Childcare solutions are also offered to facilitate access to this training through collaboration between the MJC and the Département. A fashion show was organized at City Hall to showcase the participants' creations.

### Livr'exil program



Libraries are places of unconditional welcome, but they employ few exiled people in their teams. To address the lack of training, the **Association des Bibliothécaires de France** (ABF, French Librarians Association), in partnership with other organizations, launched the "Livr'exil" project to support the professional insertion of refugees into the reading and information science professions in France. The program, launched in 2019, includes 10 months of support with certified library assistant training provided by the ABF, internships in libraries, professional mentoring, and French language classes.



## Mobility



**Access to public or private transportation is essential for enabling personal independence and social and professional inclusion.**

**INFORMATION:** The City of **Relecq-Kerhuon** (29) organized an information meeting on mobility assistance solutions available in the territory. Led by Don Bosco, this meeting took place as part of the cultural café program at the **municipal media library**.

**DRIVER'S LICENSE:** The City of **Marseille** (13) launched the program « Coup de pouce pour le permis » to enable 500 young people with limited access to public transport to take the driving theory test. Digital workshops on the driving code are held weekly at the **Library François Mitterrand** of the Communauté Urbaine de Poitiers (86) in partnership with Toit du Monde.

**GFREE TRANSPORT:** To promote the right to mobility for all, the City of **Grenoble** (38) implemented free public transport and bike rentals in 2024 for low-income residents, AME beneficiaries (state medical aid), and students, representing 30% of its population.

**PROVISION OF TICKETS:** The **Métropole Rouen Normandie** (76) provided more than 12,000 transport tickets to associations assisting migrant populations. These tickets allow newly arrived residents in the Métropole to travel freely, with the goal of facilitating administrative procedures, among other objectives.

## Parenting



**Offering services tailored to exiled parents is an essential lever for promoting their inclusion, strengthening the parent-child bond, and supporting children's development. Here too, libraries are an ideal space for considering such actions.**

**WORKING GROUP:** The PMI service of the City of **Lyon** (69) has a working group dedicated to interculturality. A focus has also been initiated to promote mother tongues. The directors of municipal nurseries have also received training in multilingualism.

As part of the Local Urban Group (GLU) of the WELDI project, the Conseil Départemental de la **Seine-Saint-Denis** (93), supported by ANVITA, organized a meeting on issues related to parenting and early childhood in the reception of migrants in its territory. The Department also launched the initiative *Cabanes des 1000 premiers jours* (Cabins of the First 1000 Days), living spaces to welcome and support parents and future parents of children under three years old.

Within the framework of the Territorial reception and integration contract (CTAI) signed by the City of **Clermont-Ferrand** (63), a group dedicated to parenting was established at the Sainte-Marie Hospital Center to strengthen support for refugee patients, with particular attention to psycho-traumatic or mental health disorders.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD WEEK:** The Municipalities of **Cognin** (73) and **Prades-le-Lez** (34) celebrated the National Early Childhood Week from March 15 to 22, offering a varied program. In Cognin (73), activities took place in several locations, including **the library**. Meanwhile, the City of Prades-le-Lez (34) used the event to inaugurate its new early childhood relay, which includes a single service desk to guide parents.

**RECEPTION CENTERS:** The City of **Mérignac** (33) opened *La Parenthèse*, a free listening and parental support center open to everyone. The Municipality of **Guillestre** (05) opened a child-parent reception space offering free access and activities. **Pont-Péan** (35) also opened a new reception space.

**OBSERVATORY:** The Conseil Départemental de la **Seine-Saint-Denis** (93) established a territorial observatory on parenting issues, led by its Early Childhood and Parenting Innovation unit. This observatory helps develop tools based on collected data to improve local policies.

# RECOMMENDATIONS



# FOSTERING INCLUSIVE LOCAL CITIZENSHIP



For a local authority, fostering a local and inclusive citizenship means creating the conditions that allow every resident to take ownership of their territory and be recognized as a citizen. This involves initiatives that encourage expression, encounters, and engagement in all areas. **Municipal libraries, as spaces open to the territory and its residents, play a key role in this civic engagement.** They can offer participatory activities, diverse resources, and spaces for exchange that encourage everyone's participation in local life.

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## Global Citizenship Education

**Local authorities encourage open citizenship by promoting the cultures of their residents and supporting international solidarity initiatives. These actions sometimes overlap with Arts and Cultural Education in an intercultural approach.**

**CALL FOR PROJECTS:** The **Region Occitanie** and Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole (34) have partnered to launch an experimental pooled fund called the “*Fonds Occitanie pour la solidarité internationale*,” which will support international cooperation and solidarity projects. The City of **Besançon** (25) launched a call for projects to support international projects by local associative structures. Workshops on project writing and methodology were organized with the support of **Besançon** and the **Bourgogne-Franche-Comté Region**, through the regional multi-stakeholder network Bourgogne-Franche-Comté International, dedicated to international solidarity in the region. In December 2024, the network organized a meeting titled: “Combating Discrimination through Education for Global Citizenship.”

**CULTURES OF THE WORLD:** The City of **Bessancourt** (95) organized its 22nd edition of the Month of Citizenship and Sustainable Development last September, featuring a rich program of sharing and celebration, such as the

Cultures of the World festival. The City of **Clermont-Ferrand** (63) organized, alongside its partners, a new edition of its World Cultures Day, aimed at promoting the international cultures of the residents of Clermont-Ferrand.

**EVENTS:** The City of **Fontenay-sous-Bois** (94) organized a new edition of the International Solidarity Fortnight, hosted by over 70 organizations and in collaboration with many municipal services, **including the library**. Workshops, exhibitions, screenings, and school interventions were offered to reach all audiences and address themes of solidarity and interculturality.

The City of **Lyon** (69) organized, in November 2024, an International Solidarity Festival in collaboration with the *Maison des Solidarités Locales et Internationales*. The numerous events offered within this program aimed to foster meetings with associations and solidarity actors in the territory, to make them known or encourage engagement.



## Local citizenship card

Local citizenship cards are an innovative mechanism aimed at recognizing every resident of a territory as a full-fledged citizen. This system can also help improve accessibility to municipal services. For example, the Municipalities of **Paris** (75), **Le Vigan** (30), and **Villeurbanne** (69) accept the local card as proof of identity to allow **registration at libraries**.

In March 2024, ANVITA organized an online exchange on the topic of citizenship cards. The City of **Villeurbanne** (69) shared its feedback on the local card experiment launched in 2023, with the support of ANVITA. The Conseil de Développement (Development council) of **Grenoble Alpes Métropole** (38) also reported working on this project, and one issue of its illustrated magazine *Imagine demain* was dedicated to the topic. The City of **Lyon** (69) has also expressed interest in the subject as part of its 2022-2026 plan, *Lyon Ville hospitalière*.



# BEING RECOGNIZED AS CITIZEN OF THE TERRITORY



## Institutional sponsorship ceremony

**Institutional sponsorship ceremonies are symbolic welcoming events, where a citizen and/or elected official stands alongside an exiled person to affirm their support and welcome them to the territory.**

**INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY:** Each year, ANVITA encourages its network to celebrate December 18, International Migrants Day, by organizing institutional sponsorship ceremonies. In 2024, the territories of **Annecy** (74), **Bourges** (18), **Chambéry** (73), **Clermont-Ferrand** (63), **Grenoble** (38), **La Flèche** (72), **Montpellier** (34), **Montreuil** (93), **Tours** (37), and **Paris** (75) held republican sponsorship ceremonies in collaboration with their local partner associations. In total, more than 150 people were sponsored on this occasion.

**FESTIVE EVENTS:** On December 18, some Municipalities also organized festive and symbolic events, such as in **Louvigny** (14), **Metz** (57), and **Rouen** (76), where a reception was held at the City Hall. On this occasion, portraits of exiled persons created by an artist were showcased.

**SPONSORSHIPS:** In October, the Association de Parrainage Républicain des Demandeurs d'Asile et de Protection (APARDAP), the Municipalities of **Le Percy** (38) and **Mens** (38) jointly celebrated the sponsorship of six people. The Municipality of **Dullin** (73) also held a ceremony attended by the Mayor and local elected officials, followed by a festive gathering.

**CHILD SPONSORSHIPS:** At the initiative of students from Sciences Po Lyon, the City hall of the 3rd district of **Lyon** (69) and the collective Jamais Sans Toit organized a sponsorship ceremony for around thirty children housed in schools within the **Métropole de Lyon**. This was an opportunity to emphasize the importance of dignified and unconditional reception.

**EVENTS:** Institutional sponsorship ceremonies can be enhanced with a diverse cultural program. The City of **Tours** (37) offered various events around its ceremony to highlight the value of immigration. The program included round tables, exhibitions, concerts, workshops, as well as bilingual readings and a selection of books in the City library.

**SPONSORSHIP CARD:** This year, new territories decided to issue sponsorship cards during their ceremonies to symbolize and affirm the anchoring of exiled persons in the territory. This initiative follows the approach launched by the City of **Montpellier** (34) and was notably implemented in **Tours** (37) and **Lyon** (69).

## Advocating for a democracy open to all

On International Migrants Day, elected officials, mayors, and presidents who are members of ANVITA published an opinion piece affirming their communities' commitment to a dignified and inclusive reception policy. Through official sponsorship ceremonies organized throughout France, they celebrate the values of liberty, equality, and solidarity in response to the rise of xenophobic rhetoric and increasingly harsh migration policies. In the face of these abuses, we defend an open democracy based on the participation of all.



The op-ed was signed by : **Alfortville** (94), **Allonnes** (72), **Annecy** (74), **Annemasse** (74), **Barberaz** (73), **Bobigny** (93), **Bourges** (18), **Castanet-Tolosan** (31), **Chambéry** (73), **Clermont-Ferrand** (63), **La Courneuve** (93), **La Flèche** (72), **Fontenay-sous-Bois** (94), **Grenoble** (38), **Grenoble Alpes Métropole** (38), **Louvigny** (14), **Lyon** (69), **Marseille** (13), **Melle** (72), **Montreuil** (93), **Notre-Dame-de-l'Osier** (38), **Paris** (75), **Prades-le-Lez** (34), **Saint-Erblon** (35), **Saliès** (81), **Schiltigheim** (67), **Strasbourg** (67), **Tours** (37), **Villeurbanne** (69).

## Community life



**Local authorities' support for community life and citizen engagement is essential. These dynamics are vectors of social cohesion and major levers for promoting the inclusion and participation of all residents in local life.**

**RESOURCE SPACES:** The City of **Nancy** (54) has opened the *Atelier des Solidarités* to foster networking between residents, associations, and institutions around social initiatives. Open to everyone, it offers spaces for meeting, working, and training, and facilitates access to information, volunteer opportunities, and the tools needed to take local action. It also supports project leaders and mobilizes volunteers to strengthen solidarity across the territory.

**SUPPORT:** The City of **Nantes** (44) has developed the CADRAN initiative (Center for Supporting and Developing Resources for Associations in Nantes) to serve as a resource hub by supporting associations in all aspects of community life. It offers personalized advice, practical resources (training sessions, conferences, guides...), and coordinates a network of partners to reinforce links between local stakeholders.

**AWARD:** The City of **Bordeaux** (33) launched the second edition of its *Bordeaux Terre de Solidarité* Award. More than twenty initiatives were recognized for their commitment to solidarity. This year, particular attention was given to initiatives focusing on access to hygiene and sports for people experiencing precarious living conditions.

**IN LIBRARIES:** The Relais Lecture Library of the City of **Grenoble** (38) serves the territory's collective structures with an outreach approach: schools, organizations supporting people in precarious situations, associations, etc. It lends books for long periods and, together with its partners, organizes activities directly in the living spaces of the people it serves.

## Access to sports



**Local authorities play a key role in providing access to sports and leisure activities by developing accessible facilities, supporting associations, and carrying out targeted initiatives aimed at the most disadvantaged groups.**

**PASS'SPORT FESTIVAL:** The association Big Bang Ballers organised the fourth edition of its *Pass'sport Festival*, which highlights sports, artistic and cultural activities, as well as popular education, in order to promote living together. Throughout the year, the association also offers many sports activities at a solidarity rate of 5 euros for exiled people. It is supported, among others, by the **Grenoble Alpes Métropole** and the City of **Grenoble** (38).

**NETWORKING:** A platform for "welcoming clubs" was recently launched, led by the association Big Bang Ballers and supported by the City of **Grenoble** (38). Its aim is to promote inclusive, community-based sport by bringing together sports organisations, popular education structures, and social and medico-social services committed to the inclusion of marginalised people.

**CALL FOR PROJECTS:** The call for projects "Agir in Seine-Saint-Denis" by the **Seine-Saint-Denis** Department (93) has made it possible to support four

initiatives related to sport and health for residents of Seine-Saint-Denis. Among these is the project of the association FSGT 93, which seeks to promote and improve the health and well-being of exiled people welcomed in the territory through access to regular physical and sports activities.

**INTERNATIONAL CLUB:** The Sporting Club International of **Villeurbanne** (69) is a hospitality-oriented platform created in 2021 to foster social ties between all residents of Villeurbanne, with particular attention to exiled people. Basketball and football are practiced there, and membership is free.

**SUPPORT FOR ASSOCIATIONS:** The **Lyon Métropole** (69) supports the association DAHLIR, which works to ensure access to sports, cultural and artistic activities, and guides people who are far removed from such activities toward independent participation in physical activity, volunteering or leisure.

# TAKING PART IN ASSOCIATIVE, CULTURAL AND SPORTS LIFE

## Access to culture



**Access to culture for exiled people is essential for inclusion, recognition, and personal, social, and civic construction. Libraries play a key role in this regard as the primary local public cultural space.**

**CULTURE AND SOLIDARITY:** The City of **Paris** (75), through the Rosa Luxembourg Hub, hosted the 8th edition of the Culture and Solidarity Encounters in March 2025. The programme included a cine-concert, a choir performance and creative workshops in connection with the **Paris Libraries** and the Maurice Ravel Conservatory. As part of this event, artworks created by people living in emergency accommodation centres were displayed.

**PHOTO EXHIBITION:** The Council of Foreign Residents of the City of **Montpellier** (34) organised the photography contest “*Regards croisés sur la diversité montpellieraine*”. The selected photographs were then exhibited at the City Hall. Exiled students from the Léonard de Vinci high school in Montpellier took part in a photographic project led by photographer Marielle Rossignol, as part of an initiative supported by the Hérault Department (34) and the **Pierresvives Media Library**. The resulting exhibition showcases their perspective on their lives, dreams, and perceptions of the host country.

**GUIDED TOURS:** The Municipal Museum of the City of **Grenoble** (38), in partnership with La Cimade and the association AMAL, organised guided tours led by exiled people to mark International Migrants Day on 18 December. A video project was also produced, featuring four learners from AMAL’s French classes sharing their impressions of selected works in the museum.

**CULTURAL OUTREACH:** The City of **Rouen** (76), through its CCAS and in partnership with Samusocial, set up cultural outreach rounds to promote access to culture for people experiencing homelessness. Once a month, during a food distribution, a concert is organised along with a literature stand.

**PROJECT SUPPORT:** The City of **Nantes** (44) launched the project grant “Culture & Inclusive and Solidarity-Based Experimentation” to encourage the participation and cultural expression of the most vulnerable residents and to combat inequalities

## Cultural third places



New and innovative spaces have been designed to build bridges between culture, social connection, and unconditional welcome. This is the case of the new facility of the City of Paris (75), inaugurated in 2024 in the 19th district, which brings together the Maison des Réfugiés—a space dedicated to the inclusion of exiled people run by Emmaüs Solidarité and Singa Paris—and the **James Baldwin Media Library**, which offers a joint programme with the Maison as well as thematic collections dedicated to migration.

The policy of “Republican Inclusion” of the Communauté d’Agglomération Grand Paris Sud Seine-Essonne-Sénart aims, among other goals, to reinvent **its Media Libraries** and transform them into cultural third places.

The Agora of the City of Metz (57) is a venue that combines a Media Library, a Social Centre, and a digital space. Offering free membership and a rich year-round programme, it serves as a meeting place open to everyone. In Melle (79), **the municipal media library** is located next to the socio-cultural centre, enabling collaboration between the two structures and the development of joint programming.

In La Courneuve, a temporary cultural third place has been created inside a school that will open in the autumn of 2025. The project, led by the Seine-Saint-Denis Department (93) and named “La Cour Neuve”, is part of the local authority’s effort to open public spaces to as many people as possible and to make them places of encounter and discovery.



## Consultation and co-construction mechanisms



**Involving the people affected in the development of local policies helps to create fairer, more tailored, and inclusive policies, while empowering those involved.**

**PARTICIPATORY BODY :** The experiment carried out by **Grenoble Alpes Métropole** (38), in the form of a participation body called the *Agora*, brought together newly arrived Grenoble residents for two years around thematic meetings. This initiative aimed to directly involve those most concerned in shaping local reception and inclusion policies. The members of the *Agora* developed a *Compass of Hospitality*, gathering their recommendations for public decision-makers, which they were able to present during metropolitan and municipal councils. They also contributed to the *Laboratories of Hospitality* of the European project MUST-A-Lab, in which the Métropole participates, aiming to test methods of co-constructing public action. A welcome guide for newly arrived foreign residents was produced to improve access to information and existing services.

**Rennes Métropole** (35) launched its *Council of Hospitality* in 2024, a participation body open to exiled people without any requirement regarding administrative status or language level. Supported by ANVITA, the Council meets every two months to discuss themes chosen by its members, such as access to rights, health, or employment. Training sessions were also offered, notably on the competencies of local authorities.

The City of **Strasbourg** (67) transformed its Council of Foreign Residents into a Council for Intercultural and Civic Life, in collaboration with its members. This body aims to contribute to building an intercultural and welcoming City. Each year, the Mayor of Strasbourg refers a topic to the Council, which leads to a series of working sessions.

**PARTICIPATORY EVALUATION:** The City of **Nantes** (44) launched a participatory evaluation of its welcome guide for foreign residents, "Bienvenue à Nantes", notably through consultation workshops with the people concerned.

**CULTURAL POLICIES:** The City of **Bordeaux** (33) organised a Culture Forum to define its cultural policy with residents through debates, meetings, and collective workshops addressing cultural rights, participation, and public spaces.

**IN LIBRARIES:** With the aim of involving the public more closely in library governance, the City of **Rouen** (76) launched a public vote to choose the cultural programme of its Libraries. In the same spirit, participatory workshops are regularly organised in **the Libraries**. Similarly, the Municipality of **Melle** (79) and its Media Library launched a survey among residents and users to better understand their practices and adapt the services offered.

**CTAI:** To define the priorities of the 2024–2026 Territorial Reception and Integration Contract (CTAI), **Métropole Rouen Normandie** (76) launched a consultation phase with the contract's beneficiaries and local stakeholders, in order to best understand expectations and involve the people concerned in its implementation. This phase continues the participatory approach initiated with the signing of the first CTAI between the State and the Métropole in 2021.

**MEETINGS:** The City of **Strasbourg** (67) hosted the European Participation Meetings, co-organised with the association Décider ensemble, the Eurométropole of Strasbourg, and the Grand Est Region. The event brought together elected officials, residents, associations, and researchers to discuss issues of local democracy. Field visits and exchange sessions highlighted various participatory practices. **Grenoble Alpes Métropole** (38), also present, showcased its Council for Development (C2D), a laboratory for citizen foresight.

# PARTICIPATING IN LOCAL POLITICAL LIFE

## Calling on public authorities



**Calling on public authorities is a legitimate way for exiled persons, like any other citizen, to participate in local political life and make their voices heard on issues that affect them.**

**REGULARIZATION:** A rally took place on March 22, 2025, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in support of the collective of undocumented couriers in Poitiers, during the submission of their collective regularization request. The Mayor and elected officials of the City of **Poitiers** (86), present on site, expressed their support.

**RIGHT TO VOTE:** The Mayor of **La Courneuve** (93) supports the appeal of citizens of La Courneuve for the right of all residents to vote in local elections. Available on the City's website, this appeal was also displayed on the front of the City Hall to prominently advocate for an open and inclusive local citizenship.

**CITIZEN VOTING:** The collective *J'y suis, j'y vote*, in partnership with the European network Voting Rights for All Residents, celebrated the International Day of the Right to Vote for Everyone on April 26. On this occasion, citizen votings were organized in several European Cities, including Paris. The results were subsequently announced at **Paris** City Hall.

**EVENT :** The City of **Villeurbanne** (69), the Alinsky Institute, the Observatory of Associative Freedoms, and the GIS Democracy and Participation organised the first Meetings on Democratic Accountability and Associative Freedoms. This event brought together local authorities, civil society, and researchers to promote civic mobilisation and reflect on the creation of spaces of resistance in the face of rising authoritarianism and inequalities.

**PARLEMENT DE RUE:** A *Parlement de rue* (Street Parliament) was organised in Nancy during the summer of 2024, following the mobilisation against the Asylum and Immigration Law. This inter-organisational event highlighted the voices of exiled people, aiming to challenge stereotypes, denounce the current migration policies, and assert that dignified reception is possible. It is part of a collective effort to reclaim public debate. The City of **Nancy** and the Department of Meurthe-et-Moselle (54) provided financial, logistical, and political support to this initiative.

## Walking press conference

The association **La Cloche**, committed to fighting the exclusion of people experiencing extreme precarity, organised a walking press conference on 5 June 2024, with the support of the association Vox Public. La Cloche's volunteers borrowed the codes of sport and repurposed urban furniture found in the streets of Paris to denounce the proliferation of exclusionary urban fixtures, some of which were installed for the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

These installations, often designed to prevent sitting or lying down, deprive people of places to rest or find shelter from the elements, particularly during periods of extreme cold or heat.

While the City of **Paris** (75) has committed to not installing new exclusionary furniture, this commitment has not been followed by certain companies, shops, or co-owned buildings.



# RECOMMENDATIONS



## Glossaire

### A

AAP : Appel À Projet - Call for projects

AME : Aide Médicale d'État - State Medical Aid

ANCT : Agence Nationale de la Cohésion des Territoires - National Agency for Territorial Cohesion

ANVITA : Association Nationale des Villes et Territoires Accueillants - National Agency for Territorial Cohesion

AVUF : Association des Villes Universitaires de France - Association of University Cities of France

### B

BSF : Bibliothèques Sans Frontières - Library without Borders

### C

CADA : Centre d'Accueil pour Demandeurs d'Asile - Reception Center for Asylum Seekers

CC/ CA : Communauté de Communes, Communauté d'Agglomération: - Inter-Municipalities

CCAS : Centre Communal d'Action Sociale - Reception Center for Asylum Seekers

CHU : Centre d'Hébergement d'Urgence - Emergency Accommodation Center

CTAI : Contrat Territorial d'Accueil et d'Intégration - Territorial Reception and Integration Contract

### D

DALO : Droit Au Logement Opposable - Enforceable Right to Housing

### F

FALC : Facile À Lire et à Comprendre - Easy to read and understand

FLE : Français Langue Étrangère - French as a foreign language

### G

GLU : Group Local Urbact

### I

ICC : Intercultural Cities Programme

### J

JOP : Jeux Olympiques et Paralympiques - Olympic and Paralympic games

### L

LiBri : Library Bridges

### M

MJC : Maison des Jeunes et de la Culture - Youth and culture center

### O

OQTF : Obligation de Quitter le Territoire Français - Obligation to Leave French Territory

OACAS : Organisme d'Accueil Communautaire et d'Activités Solidaires - Community Host Organization and Solidarity Activities

### P

PMI : Protection Maternelle et Infantile - Maternal and Child Protection

### S

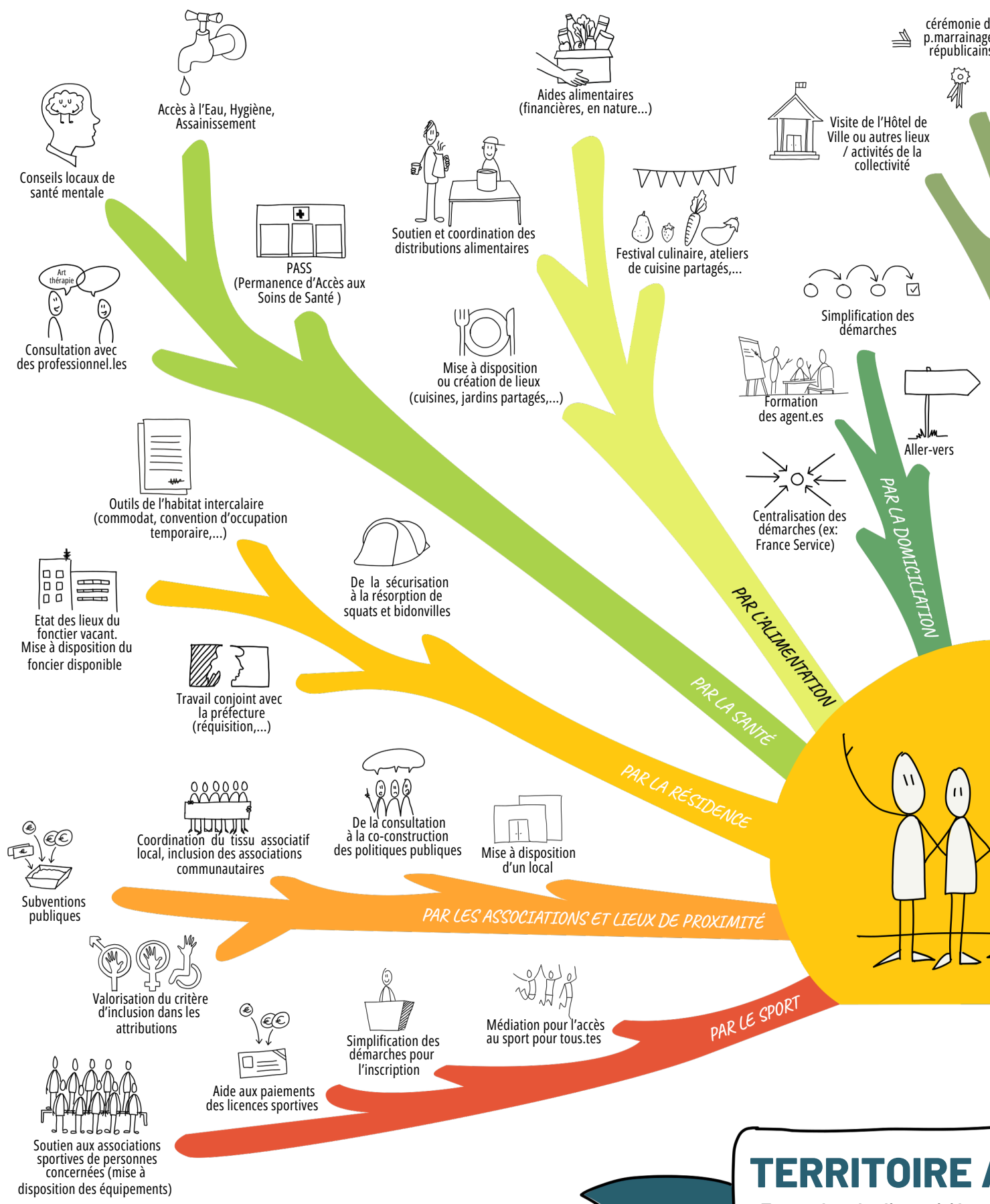
SRU : Solidarité et Renouvellement Urbain - Solidarity and Urban Renewal

### W

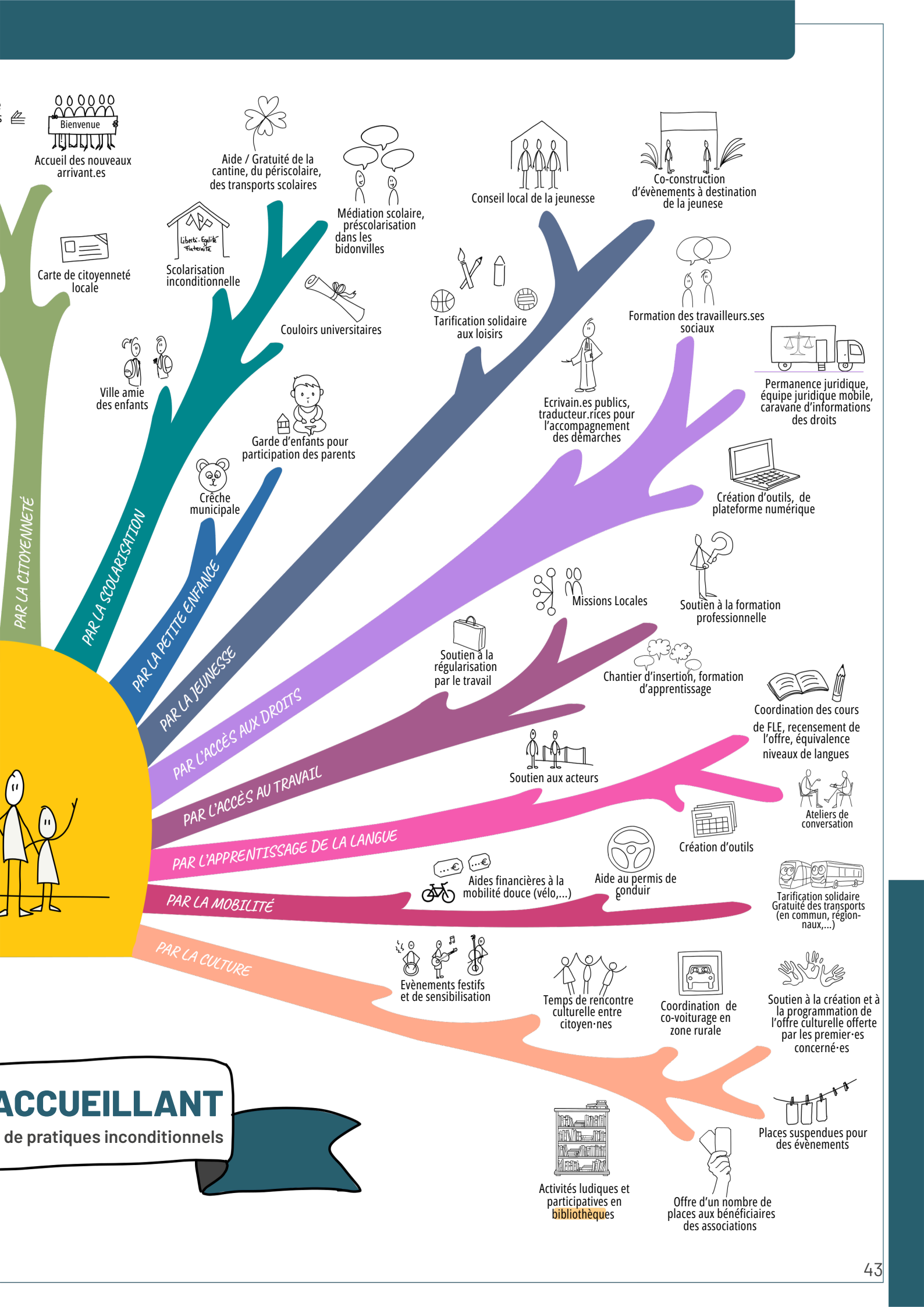
WELDI : Welcome and Empowerment for Local Dignified Integration

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**TERRITOIRE A**  
Exemples de dispositifs et



**Bienvenue**  
Accueil des nouveaux arrivant.es

Aide / Gratuité de la cantine, du périscolaire, des transports scolaires

Médiation scolaire, préscolarisation dans les bidonvilles

Conseil local de la jeunesse

Co-construction d'évènements à destination de la jeunesse

Carte de citoyenneté locale

Liberté, Équité, Fraternité  
Scolarisation inconditionnelle

Couloirs universitaires

Tarifcation solidaire aux loisirs

Formation des travailleur.se.s sociaux

Permanence juridique, équipe juridique mobile, caravane d'informations des droits

Ville amie des enfants

Garde d'enfants pour participation des parents

Ecrivain.es publics, traducteur.rices pour l'accompagnement des démarches

Création d'outils, de plateforme numérique

Crèche municipale

PAR LA CITOYENNETÉ

PAR LA SCOLARISATION

PAR LA PETITE ENFANCE

PAR LA JEUNESSE

PAR L'ACCÈS AUX DROITS

PAR L'ACCÈS AU TRAVAIL

PAR L'APPRENTISSAGE DE LA LANGUE

PAR LA MOBILITÉ

PAR LA CULTURE

Soutien à la régularisation par le travail

Missions Locales

Soutien à la formation professionnelle

Chantier d'insertion, formation d'apprentissage

Coordination des cours de FLE, recensement de l'offre, équivalence niveaux de langues

Soutien aux acteurs

PAR L'ACCÈS AU TRAVAIL

PAR L'APPRENTISSAGE DE LA LANGUE

PAR LA MOBILITÉ

PAR LA CULTURE

Aides financières à la mobilité douce (vélo,...)

Aide au permis de conduire

Création d'outils

Tarifcation solidaire Gratuité des transports (en commun, régionaux,...)

Evènements festifs et de sensibilisation

Temps de rencontre culturelle entre citoyen.nes

Coordination de co-voiturage en zone rurale

Soutien à la création et à la programmation de l'offre culturelle offerte par les premier.es concerné.es

**ACCUEILLANT**  
de pratiques inconditionnels

Activités ludiques et participatives en bibliothèques

Offre d'un nombre de places aux bénéficiaires des associations

Places suspendues pour des évènements



More information : <https://anvita.fr>



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