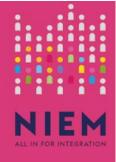


NFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

ne Racism, Ecologie, Pagge and Note/Violence



21st Coalition meeting of NIEM alliance Refugee Women in

Greece



Event Report









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Introduction

The number of people displaced from their home environment has doubled in 2020 compared to 2010. As reported by UNHCR in 2020 alone, some 82.4 million people were forcibly displaced¹. It is estimated that about half of the displaced and refugee population are women and girls (about 47%). In some communities, women and girls face daily discrimination and violence simply because of their gender. In times of displacement, this problem escalates.

Since the 24th of February and Russia's invasion in Ukraine, we all witness the terrible impact of war. Thousands of refugees due to the invasion and even more loss of lives. Women and children are moving to other countries for protection. Even today, there are no safe passages for refugees in order to move to areas where their lives won't be in danger. A small number of people have managed to find refuge in other countries, including Greece. We can only hope that the necessary diplomatic solutions will be reached soon.

Unfortunately, the list of countries in crisis is not limited to the European continent. We do not forget conflicts and violence in Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, Myanmar and beyond. People in many countries of the world find their lives, safety, honour and dignity threatened, and not only because of the war conditions in their countries. In this difficult context we discussed about the woman and specifically the refugee woman.

"I cannot sleep, and I still have many nightmares because of the past"

(Abigail, from Cameroon²)

Women are often the first responders in a crisis, and whether in route or in camps, in home countries or destination countries, they play a crucial role in caring for, sustaining and

² Amnesty International (2018). "I want to decide about my future". Uprooted women in Greece speak out. Available at: EUR2590712018ENGLISH.pdf (amnesty.org).





¹ UNHCR, 2020. Global trends. Forced displacement in 2020. Διαθέσιμο στο: <u>UNHCR - Global Trends in Forced</u> Displacement – 2020.





rebuilding their communities. Yet, refugee and migrant women's needs, priorities and voices are often missing from policies designed to protect and assist them.

In the context of International Women's Day, and with the collaboration of women being active in NAOMI, Ecumenical Workshop for Refugees and QRT (Quick Response Team, Casa Base) we discussed the experiences of refugee women in Greece. We also jointly examined the dynamics and elements that can empower women and help them to participate in decisions that affect their lives (You can see also Annex I).

"As women, we have to fight for our rights"

(Somaya)³

The coalition meeting took place on Friday, March 11, 2022 at 18:30, via Zoom platform. In a limited number of people were given the opportunity to attend the event. The right conditions were created so that the meeting could take place in a hybrid way. All necessary measures were followed to contain the Covid 19 pandemic. In particular, the in-person meeting was attended by refugees and migrants. People who, we know, they find it difficult to follow online meeting procedures.

³ Amnesty International (2018). "I want to decide about my future". Uprooted women in Greece speak out. Available at: EUR2590712018ENGLISH.pdf (amnesty.org).









The context of the event

The program of the Coalition meeting (You can see Annex II) was formulated together with the four women who were the main speakers. For the preparation, meetings, and visits to the places where the ladies are active took place. Meetings were also held with the Social Department of NAOMI and the QRT manager as well as the head of the photography team. While a corresponding meeting was held between the ladies and the panel moderator.

At the beginning of the Coalition Meeting we present the NIEM project (You can see at Annex III the intro banner and Annex IV the presentation of NIEM project).

A discussion with the speakers followed in this difficult context not only because of the wars and conflicts but also because of all that we lice in our everyday lives. Only in 2021, in Greece, we have witnessed 17 femicides. Amidst all that, and while our goal is still equality, we are fully aware that equality cannot concern some but all of us, it is not possible to move forward, towards equality, when so many among us are held back. In this meeting the speakers discussed about the challenges faced by escaping their country of origin in search of safety. We discussed the difficulties of the journey, the first reception in Greece, the conditions of the accommodation in refugee camps but also in housing programs. Our main goal was to approach the various adversities a woman experience throughout the multiple roles a woman has as a wife, as a daughter and as a single woman.

Women in this part present difficulties by sharing their personal stories and experiences.

In the second part of the Coalition meeting we focused on the efforts and the struggle of women in order not only to cope with the challenges, but also to bring change and improve their daily life in essential and creative ways.

Two of the women work and have managed to make a living from it without stopping to create through their work and hobbies. The other two women are being trained in photography using the lens as a weapon to raise awareness of what happens to women either in Greece or in their country of origin. They deal with issues related to homelesness, environmental protection and gender equality, highlighting important elements from the









difficult reality and proposing changes to improve the quality of life. It is important for all the speakers to continue to be dynamic and find people to support them in order to feel secure in what they undertake to do.

In the last part before the discussion, the two organizations and their cooperation in highlighting women's efforts were briefly presented (you can see Annex V and Annex VI). Also, the two photographers present an example of their photographic work (you can see Annex VII).

The discussion that followed the speeches was warmly attended by the people in the room.

It is more than important to mention that the Coalition Meeting were held in English after the request of the women participated in the panel. They asked not to have any kind of translation so that none of the participants feel that the message they want to convey to those who attended the event is mediated by any kind of interpretation.







Dissemination of the event - Publicity

Invitations were sent via email, while a press release (See Annex VIII) was sent both to the Media and to the entire contact list of Antigone, which includes individuals as well as organizations. In the event that was created and uploaded on Facebook, 64 people stated their intention to participate in the meeting⁴. In addition, the event was promoted by NAOMI's facebook page⁵.

The meeting was published by the following media:

Politismika.gr, 10/03/2022: Refugee women in Greece at the focus of the 21st NIEM coalition meeting (Οι γυναίκες πρόσφυγες στην Ελλάδα στο επίκεντρο της 21^{ης} Συνάντησης Συμμαχίας NIEM), available at: Οι γυναίκες πρόσφυγες στην Ελλάδα στο επίκεντρο της 21ης Συνάντησης Συμμαχίας NIEM - Πολιτισμικά Θεσσαλονίκης (politismika.gr)

⁵ NAOMI, Ecumenical Workshop for Refugees, facebook page and announcement of the event (comments also included) (20+) NAOMI Workshop Thessaloniki | Facebook





⁴ Antigone Facebook page: (20+) 21η συνάντηση συμμαχίας NIEM: Γυναίκες πρόσφυγες στην Ελλάδα | Facebook ANTIGONE website announcement: Οι γυναίκες πρόσφυγες στην Ελλάδα στο επίκεντρο της 21ης Συνάντησης Συμμαχίας NIEM - ANTIFONH (antigone.gr)





Participation in the coalition meeting

A total of 43 people participated in the event. Of these, 16 were in the room (See Annex IX), at Oikopolis place, and 21 participated online (Annex X). Of the people who participated online, two were responsible for running the event and providing technical support. 6 were the individuals who were on the panel (See Annex XI). One person was responsible for moderating the panel of the event and there were 5 speakers.







Annexes

Annex I: Info letter for the 21st Coalition Meeting 21th coalition meeting of NIEM

Refugee women in Greece

"I cannot sleep, and I still have many nightmares because of the past"

(Abigail, from Cameroon⁶)

The number of people displaced from their home environment has doubled in 2020 compared to 2010. As reported by UNHCR in 2020 alone, some 82.4 million people were forcibly displaced⁷. It is estimated that about half of the displaced and refugee population are women and girls (about 47%). In some communities, women and girls face daily discrimination and violence simply because of their gender. In times of displacement, this problem escalates.

"If we lose hope, we lose our way".

"Think about how [...] we survived the war. We are lucky, and now we want to give back".

(Somali refugee in South Africa8)

In the context of International Women's Day, and with the collaboration of women being active in NAOMI, Ecumenical Workshop for Refugees and QRT (Quick Response Team, Casa Base) we will discuss the experiences of refugee women in Greece. We will also jointly examine the dynamics and elements that can empower women and help them to participate in decisions that affect their lives.

"As women, we have to fight for our rights"

(Somaya)9

The meeting will take place online on Friday, March 11, 2022, at 18:30, via Zoom platform. From

⁹ Amnesty International (2018). "I want to decide about my future". Uprooted women in Greece speak out. Available at: EUR2590712018ENGLISH.pdf (amnesty.org).





⁶ Amnesty International (2018). "I want to decide about my future". Uprooted women in Greece speak out. Available at: <u>EUR2590712018ENGLISH.pdf</u> (amnesty.org).

⁷ UNHCR, 2020. Global trends. Forced displacement in 2020. Διαθέσιμο στο: <u>UNHCR - Global Trends in Forced Displacement – 2020</u>.

⁸ UNHCR (2020). People at the Centre: The Intersection of Age, Gender and Diversity. Age, Gender and Diversity Accountability Report 2020. Διαθέσιμο στο: <u>UNHCR - Age, Gender and Diversity Accountability Report 2020</u>.





"ANTIGONE - Information and Documentation Centre on Racism, Ecology, Peace and Non-Violence" (ANTIGONE) in the framework of the program 'National Integration and Evaluation Mechanism (NIEM)'.









Annex II: Invitation to 21st Coalition Meeting 21st meeting of the NIEM alliance

Topic: Refugee women in Greece

The non-profit organization "ANTIGONE - Information and Documentation Center for Racism, Ecology, Peace and Non-Violence" (ANTIGONE) invites you to participate in the 21st meeting under the program 'National Integration and Evaluation Mechanism' (NIEM).

The coalition meeting will take place online on Friday 11 March 2022 at 18:30 via Zoom.

The link of the meeting is:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpf-CuqDgsGd21DRvpEK-Xdrm1TfwJfrQw

The program of the meeting

A brief overview of the NIEM project.

The journey, the reception in Greece, the accommodation in the refugee camps, the housing programs.

Discussion about the women's experiences.

The woman as daughter, the woman as wife, the single woman ...

Discussion on the difficulties of these roles.

The need to change the rough daily life, the efforts of women and the dynamism to cope with challenges and difficulties with creativity.

Presentation of actions.

Discussion will follow.

The event will be held in English after the request of the women to discuss in a language without mediating their message.

The women participating in the event are actively involved in the activities of NAOMI, Ecumenical Workshop for Refugees and the QRT (Quick Response Team).









Annex III: The introduction banner of the Coalition meeting





http://www.forintegration.eu/ www.facebook.com/allinforintegration/

https://www.antigone.gr/national-integration-evaluation-mechanism-niem-all-in-for-integration/



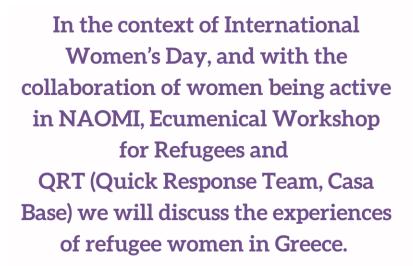






As reported by UNHCR in 2020 alone, some 82.4 million people were forcibly displaced.

It is estimated that about half of the displaced and refugee population are women and girls (about 47%).















Annex IV: NIEM's project presentation



ttp://www.forintegration.eu/ www.facebook.com/allinforin

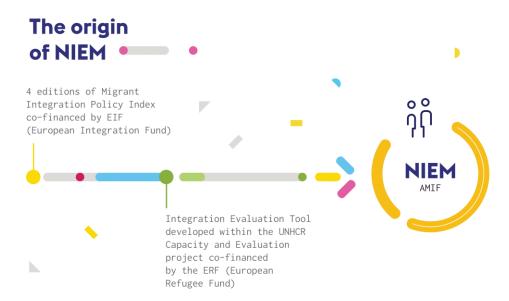
What is the NIEM about?

Key aim of the NIEM project is to mainstream an integration evaluation mechanism into the integration policies for refugees and beneficiaries of international protection at the national level in the 15 European countries.









NIEM mission statement •









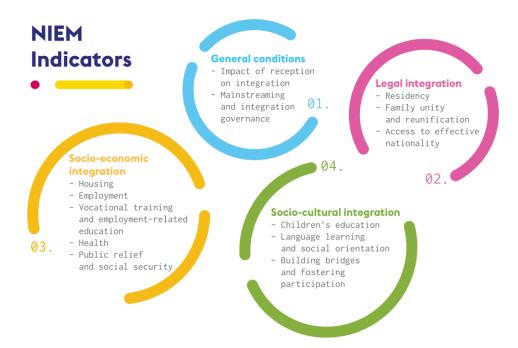




















National coalitions for better refugee integration

- promoting action and its' outcomes in each participating country;
- tightening relations between key stakeholders, experts and practitioners;
- monitoring the implementation of the recommendations and advocating for their mainstreaming in the participating countries;
- building a foundation of mainstream long-term conclusions and recommendations deriving from the research carried out in the framework of the action.



International NIEM coalition

involving key European stakeholders to improve the integration policies of beneficiaries of international protection

Project Indicators Examples

- baseline reports prepared by national partners;
- national progress reports prepared by national partners (appearing twice - at the end of 2018 and 2020;
- joint reports prepared after completing Baseline, Evaluation 1 and Evaluation 2 and final publication
- national meetings
- national coalition meetings in all participating countries
- European events (Budapest, Brussels)









Annex V: NAOMI, Ecumenical Workshop for refugees, presentation



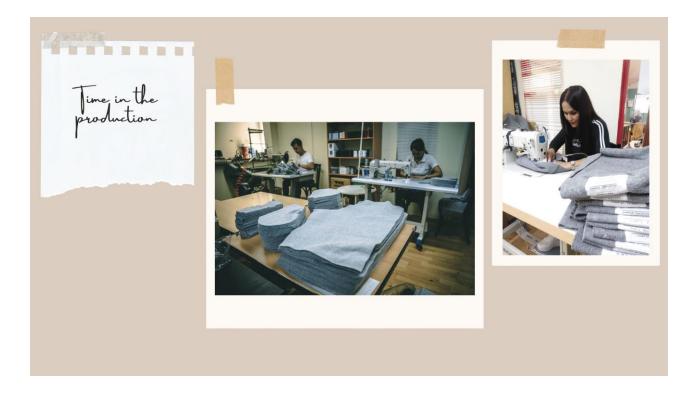




























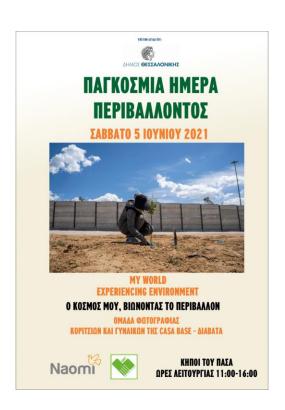


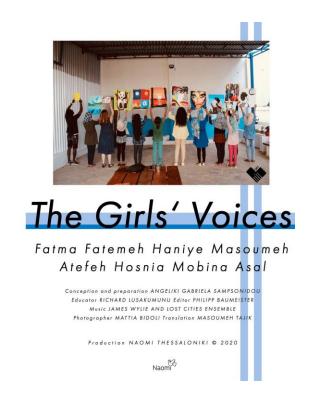
Annex VI: NAOMI, Ecumenical Workshop for refugees and QRT (Quick Response Team, Casa Base) presenting their collaboration on empowering girl's voices

In collaboration

























Annex VII: Masoumeh and Masoumeh photographic work (the examples who presented at the coalition meeting

















Thessaloniki, __/__/

Annex VIII: Press Release

PRESS RELEASE

"ANTIGONE - Information and Documentation Center for Racism, Ecology, Peace and Non-
Violence" (ANTIGONE) organizes the 21st meeting of the alliance within the program "Nationa
Integration and Evaluation Mechanism (NIEM)". The topic of the meeting is "Refugee women in

Greece".

It is estimated that about half of the displaced and refugee population are women and girls. In the context of International Women's Day, and with the collaboration of women being active in NAOMI, Ecumenical Workshop for Refugees and QRT (Quick Response Team, Casa Base) we will discuss the experiences of refugee women in Greece. We will also jointly examine the dynamics and elements that can empower women and help them to participate in decisions that affect their lives.

The event will start with a briefly presentation of the NIEM program and will continue with the women's statements and the discussion on issues related to women and migration. The journey, the first reception in Greece, the accommodation in the refugee camps, the housing programs. These are some of the topics that will be addressed. But we will not just focus on the difficulties, since each of the women is making dynamic efforts to change the difficult reality.

This will allow us to examine both the difficulties and obstacles and the efforts and dynamism that some women show to cope with this difficult reality with creativity.

The women who will be on the panel have chosen English as the language of the event because they wish to communicate their messages directly without the mediation of the translation.

The alliance meeting will take place **online** on **Friday 11 March 2022**, 18:30 - 20:30 at the following link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpf-CuqDgsGd21DRvpEK-Xdrm1TfwJfrQw

For more information you can contact:









Annex IX: Participation list from people attend in person the Coalition Meeting





21st Coalition Meeting, Greece

National Integration Evaluation Mechanism (NIEM)

Friday 11/03/2022

Oikopolis, Ptolemeon 29A, Thessaloniki

	Participants in the 21st Coalition Meeting					
	Name/Surname	Institution / Position	Tel.	e-mail	Signature	
	Zwi	End Sward (d)				
1	ALEGOROUS DI	GUR		ralexop@anail.com		
	MAA MBAKO			, 3	TOR	
2	ANTOINETTE					
	, (-	Painter/	,		1.00	
3	JALLOH MALIN	1 HUSBAND	6946701059	niceandlovely30@gmailcom	y fringe	
4	Tairia (Kajala			0 /	Jung 1	



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	Name/Surname	Institution / Position	Tel.	e-mail	Signature
5	TATPINOY ENEN 4		6944520504	elenipatr (hotmail. gr	Was a
6	Khuramshazab		6947243763	Khuraim Lbloggmont, com	br
7	Anfinityms Kontepés	-	6947815413	Jimkons @ gmoult. cum	#Z
8	EMporta un		6 9725826	92 @ boulak@gm	a cl. com
9	Verenz Finh			verena, filh @ pasteo.og	OFach
10	Pogosyan		6983786216	pogosyany ana @mail. con	01
	Eurold Adjas julia		6974946061	Tulepapagnail-con	ASP.
	ZAFOPOS ZAFOPOS			ezagoros@xahoo.com	Layer
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					ALL IN FOR INTEGRATION
	Name/Surname	Institution / Position	Tel.	e-mail	Signature
13	Moniorus Fronvirones	Oskupulis	6974009555	crisquelie gmail. com	J
14	XarvíEP Már		6947740883	naidersutas @ichude	m Px
15	ther Solvan	olka Polis		Cher Sofrano (@ guar) [. C.	
16	Tito Karisa			titokanisa@gmad.com	Under
17				,	
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19	, ,				
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Annex X: Participation list from people attend via Zoom the Coalition Meeting

21st Coalition Meeting Ref	ugee women in Greece - NIEM	
11/3/2022		
Zoom Participation list		
Name	Email	Comments
ANTIGONE Information and	antigone.int@gmail.com	Host
Documentation Centre		
Effie Gelastopoulou	effiegelastopoulou@gmail.com	Co - host
ΙΩΑΝΝΑ ΝΤΕΡΗ	ioannanteri@gmail.com	Participant
Julia Vogel	julia.vogel.02.jv@gmail.com	Participant
Ζωή Χατζηγιαννάκη	xatzigiannakizoi@hotmail.com	Participant
Eleni Gelastopoulou	ge.eleni@yahoo.gr	Participant
SONIA SAVOULIDOU	sonia.savoulidou@gmail.com	Participant
EIPHNH XATZHMIXAHΛ	renachatzim@gmail.com	Participant
Χρυσούλα Λ.	plazar77@yahoo.gr	Participant
Ελεονώρα Ζώτου	eleonora.zotou@gmail.com	Participant
Maria Psaralexi	mpsarale@gmail.com	Participant
Κωνσταντίνα Πάντζιου	pantziouk@hotmail.com	Participant
Σκοτίνα Πιερία	argiargyriou@gmail.com	Participant
Αθανάσιος Θεοδωρίδης	nastheo@yahoo.gr	Participant
Nektarios Basdekis	nektariosb@protonmail.com	Participant
Dimitris Kanteres	jimkans@gmail.com	Participant
Adrià Alcoverro	alcoverrobuteo@yahoo.es	Participant
ΧΡΥΣΟΥΛΑ ΚΑΡΑΚΙΤΣΑΚΗ	ckarakitsaki@gmail.com	Participant
Dorothee Vakalis	naomi.thess@gmail.com	Participant
Elli Pap	elliepapastergiou@gmail.com	Participant
Bimpisidou	mpimpisidou@hotmail.com	Participant







Annex XI: Panelists list in the Coalition Meeting





21st Coalition Meeting, Greece

National Integration Evaluation Mechanism (NIEM)

Friday 11/03/2022

Oikopolis, Ptolemeon 29A, Thessaloniki

			Panelists		
	Name/Surname	Institution / Position	Tel.	e-mail	Comments
	·			blutai 989 @gus	It was a very who
L	Binta Jalloh	Maomi	694 6701059	1 1	programmy and I learn
2	Masoumen Zajik	ORT	6945909293		Thutwas arrice eventual
3	Masoomeh Mousavi	QKT	6955993 88 5	mmoosavi396@gmailco	I had a good time
1	Mine Ahmadi	HAOM		,	
	Artin Aptria	ANTIFONAL/Coordinator	6976940524	authingrian@	Per
	AXXEDIUM TOSEPICA.	DE HAOM	69489836	32 agsampson	nidou Perfect.
	Agredium Todopica	***	EUROPEAN UNI		Com

EUROPEAN UNION Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

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Annex XII: Photos from the Coalition Meeting



The panel of the event, photo by Mattia from QRT









Participants attending the event, photo by Mattia from QRT

SAFE HARBOUR





A view of the snacks that were available throughout the event

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SAFE HARBOUR