





Mission Wings Foundation

Stara Zagora Municipality

Enhancing the participation of migrants through the creation of migrant councils

























- ❖ Population 150 000 people
- Central region
- 6<sup>th</sup> biggest in Bulgaria























- Since the beginning of the war more than 1000 Ukrainian refugees
- 600 remained in the city
- ❖ 62 Ukrainian refugees live in municipality apartments in Stara Zagora, free of rent

























Free tickets for puppet theater





























Free opera tickets for the children and their parents



























Community actions and cleaning activities





























## Standing with Ukraine





























## Cultural activities



























### **POLITICAL CONCEPT IN BULGARIA**

- Bulgaria remains a "transit" country for refugees and economic migrants from third countries.
- Many cases of outright human rights violations against people from these groups have been recorded - systematic pushbacks, illegal detentions, others.
- Public prejudice against migrants remains unsanctioned by state-initiated policies and the institutions that are responsible for lawenforcement demonstrate arbitrary practices.

- Integration measures, primarily understood as services, are provided exclusively by NGOs mostly in the capital.
- Division of migrants by type and discrimination.
- No accurate statistics exist on the number and type of migrants in Bulgaria because of the constant emigration flow.
- No state-supported good practices for encouraging the political or civic participation of migrants.



















# Establishment of the Migrant Council

























### **PROJECT AND RESULTS**

- Identify individuals and migrant communities.
- Community capacity building and empowering to develop skills and competencies so as to take greater control of their own lives and also contributes to inclusive local development.
- > Council members: 10.
- > Countries of origin:

Ukraine Syria
Argentina India
Turkey Japan
Vietnam Moldova





















## **COMMUNITY TALKS**































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## **COMMUNITY TALKS**



























#### **MEETINGS WITH THE AUTORITIES**































### **ECO ACTICITIES**































## **COMMUNITY ACTIONS**































## **MAJOR CHALLENGES**

- Reaching them and language.
- · Individuality vs community.
- Host society unacceptance.
- Lack of local policy to support them.
- Sustainability.























## **FUTURE PLANNING**

- Sustainability of the Council.
- Community engagement.
- Continuation of events and community activities.
- Multi community development.
- Entering to politics for decision making.



























Thank you for the attention!

www.missionwings.org www.starazagora.bg























