



PRESS RELEASE

Ljubljana wins a Gold Award at the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award 2024

26 April 2024 – The European Commission has awarded Ljubljana in Slovenia a Gold Award for its work to reinforce diversity and inclusion and protect women.

Commissioner for Equality, Helena Dalli, announced the winners of this year's [European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Awards](#), and kicked-off the annual European Diversity Month during a high-level event hosted in Brussels on 25 April.

Nine winners from five countries shared **Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards** across three categories: authorities with more than 50,000 inhabitants, authorities with less than 50,000 inhabitants, and a specific award for authorities enabling safe towns, cities and regions for women in all their diversity, by addressing violence against women. Two local authorities took home prizes in two categories.

Ljubljana took home first prize in the **specific award** for local authorities that **enable safe towns, cities and regions for women in all their diversity, by addressing violence against women**. The capital city is committed to ending violence against women. It organises events to raise awareness of the problems and funds and supports non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working in this field. Miranda de Ebro in Spain and Växjö in Sweden claimed the Silver and Bronze Awards respectively for their important work in this field.

In the category of **local authorities with more than 50,000 inhabitants**, the Gold Award went to Zagreb, the capital of Croatia, for its work addressing women, persons with disabilities, LGBTIQ people, migrants, and Roma. The Silver prize was awarded to the municipality of Växjö in Sweden. The Bronze Award was granted to La Laguna in Spain.

For **local authorities with less than 50,000 inhabitants**, the municipality of Corbetta, in Italy, received the Gold Award for its long-term commitment to diversity and inclusion and its work on specific areas of inclusion, such as gender, persons with disabilities and refugees. Corbetta's authorities also strived to make public spaces more accessible. Two Spanish localities took the Silver and Bronze Awards respectively: Miranda de Ebro and Casares.

The public choice award, selected by the participants of the Award Ceremony, is available [online](#).

Commissioner Helena Dalli, said: *"As with previous editions, the 3rd European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award recognises and provides visibility to the work of local authorities that create safe and inclusive spaces, ensure belonging and widen participation. Their commitment to the principle of equality is a source of innovation and progress towards a Union of Equality. I thank the participating cities and towns, and congratulate the winners of this edition. I encourage other European local administrations to draw inspiration from the highlighted best practices."*

[See the full list of winners online.](#)

About the #DiversityCapitals Competition

The European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award marks the launch of the **annual European Diversity Month**, which raises awareness about the importance of diversity and inclusion in the workplace and across our societies. Activities to mark the Month and promote diversity and inclusion take place across Europe throughout May.

The Award recognises the work done by cities, towns, or regions in the European Union to promote inclusion and create discrimination-free societies.

The competition is a chance for local authorities to showcase policies and initiatives that create more diverse and inclusive spaces for their citizens.

It covers initiatives that promote diversity and inclusion in terms of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age and LGBTIQ equality as well as intersectionality, the interconnected relationship of different forms of social categorisation.

Access the [media centre online](#) and read our [media backgrounder](#) to learn more about the Award and how it works.

Find out more about the [winners](#) and get [photos](#) from the Award ceremony online.

Media Contact

For media enquiries or if you'd like to receive our news releases around the Award, please write to: media@eudiversity2024.eu