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Immigration and social integration

**Approaches from immigrant civil society and the case of Lisbon,
Portugal**

**A Thesis submitted in the Partial Fulfillment for the Requirement of the Degree
of Master of Science in Integrated Urbanism and Sustainable Design**

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Vanessa García Otero

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Abstract

Widely known is the international discussion on immigration and the struggle of governments and cities in dealing with the issue. The aim of this research is to explore the strategies of Immigrant Organizations and Associations in Lisbon for enhancing social integration within the frame of public policies for social integration of immigrant population in the Portuguese context. The research explored the policies around immigrant's social integration in Lisbon and Portugal and the work of immigrant associations to contribute to such social integration. Using a qualitative approach, data was collected through desktop research, document analysis, observation and interviews. Structures and processes were identified and analyzed, along with perceptions on them and strategies and methods used for their implementation. Results unveil the various levels of action that an immigrant association has to address the diverse components in social integration keeping participation at its core. It is found that there is a gap between policy and life experiences of immigrants, a perceived deterioration process in the relationships between public and civil society sectors, and a lack of collectivity within the second one. This could be affected by the state funding schemes which also impacted on the institutionalization of associations and their sustainability. Growing in the collective building and in the relationships with the city and neighborhood spaces could be key for further development.

Keywords: Immigration, social integration, immigrant civil society, immigrants' social integration policies, Lisbon, Portugal.

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1. Introduction

Widely known is the discussion on immigration in the international context and the struggle of governments and societies to better frame their immigration policies as well as the living conditions for their immigrant population. Social integration comes as essential within this discussion in the light of the development of more just and equitable cities for all, and as a goal to be achieved by the joint work of actors in the public, private and civil society sectors and at a transnational level.

The role, or roles, that the civil society can take within this equation are wide and diverse. Therefore, they can imply different levels of impact or contribution to the social integration of immigrant communities in the cities. The existence of strong and visible organizations of the civil society working for the defense of immigrant's rights and the support of the immigrant population in diverse fields, has with no doubt contributed to the social integration in the contexts they work in. In various cases, they have become a solid partner of the structure for the implementation of the governmental immigrant social integration policies.

On that account, this study focuses on such immigrant organizations and associations and in learning from their action, intending to explore the roles they fulfill, and the aims, strategies and tools in the core of their work. For doing so, the Portuguese system on immigrant social integration, with focus on the Lisbon Metropolitan Area (LMA), is taken as case study, looking closer to the work done by the immigrant association Casa do Brasil de Lisboa in this territory. This allows to describe and examine strategies and actions for enhancing social

integration done by an immigrant association within the frame of institutional policies for social integration of immigrant population.

Acknowledged is the sensitivity and complexity of the managed topic in political terms, in international frameworks and guidelines, in policy management and implementation and in societies' positions themselves were political and moral correctness play a role and unspoken opinions persist. Of paramount importance is to clarify this study is an exploratory one that does not aim to go deep in such issues as it looks at the topic of immigration from the view of an urban integrated approach and from a standing point closer to the civil society experience.

1.1 Aim and Objectives

Aim

The aim of this research is to explore the strategies and tools of Immigrant Organizations and Associations in Lisbon for enhancing social integration within the frame of public policies for social integration of immigrant population in the Portuguese context.

Objectives

To describe the role(s) of such organizations and associations in the LMA and their networks and partnerships within the social integration policies building and implementation structures.

To explore the different strategies and processes held by these organizations and associations to seek to impact social integration of immigrant communities in LMA.

To create recommendations for moving forward on the identified obstacles for a further impact on social integration processes and policies by associations and organizations of the civil society in LMA.

1.2 Research Questions

RQ1: How do structures and policies around social integration of immigrant population work in Portugal and LMA and where do immigrant organizations and associations stand towards and/or within them?

RQ2: How and by which means does Casa do Brasil de Lisboa, as an immigrant association in LMA, seek to impact the social integration of immigrant communities?

Is expected to find out how do structures around the social integration of immigrant population and its policies work in Portugal and what is the character of these associations towards it. As well, is expected to find out how the diverse strategies and tools that are part of their work address different dimensions of social integration and which are the possible paths to move forward.

1.3 Research Methodology

The research approach is a Qualitative one. The qualitative approach is chosen, for the aim is to explore by looking closely into the characteristics and existing conditions in relation to the context of the strategies used by immigrant organizations and associations to foster social integration in LMA.

A particular immigrant association is selected as case study, as the research requires exploring a system in relation to its public policies context and networks. The Casa do Brasil de Lisboa, as an association made by immigrants and for immigrants in the capital of Portugal with strong grounds and visibility, would account for a case study that can be consider as a representative case of immigrant communities' formal associations in big cities.

The association Casa do Brasil de Lisboa was selected under the criteria of being relevant to the conceptual framework and the accessibility to the association itself and its data, especially under the circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions.

1.3.1 Data Collection

As this study was done entirely under the circumstances and restrictions that the Covid-19 pandemic situation implies, the whole data collection was done online and through the digital tools and platforms available.

On the one hand, data that refers to the nature of the association, its partnerships, projects, processes and outputs and results was collected through desktop research on the information and data available on their web portals, the association's documentation, reports of results and official documents. A total of 14

projects and initiatives by the association were reviewed from 3 final reports, 4 official documents by the association and 2 by the municipality, along with the data and audiovisual material in the diverse web portals of the municipality, the association and specific projects.

On the other hand, complementing in depth data was taken from online interviews with members of the association's working team and observation of debates, seminars and discussion sessions done through online meeting platforms, some these were view as recorded and others were joined live. This refers to information on the current nature of relationships, cooperation and processes. As well, it refers to the stands of the association on immigrant social integration within the current schemes, policies and concepts around immigration and social integration.

The conducted interviews featured one of the staff members, one of the association's co-founders and the president of the association and representative to the council for migration. Regarding the sessions observed, they were 15 in total including 2 accountability final seminars, 1 forum session and conferences and discussion sessions corresponding to 4 different projects.

Data collected was classified and examined in function of the level in which they stand according to the associations work's strategies and by the assessed dimensions within social integration. As well, in relation of the other actors involved and the overall operational schemes for social integration public policies.

1.4 Limitations

A general limitation of the case study approach is that results cannot be generalized for they are strongly bonded to the context. Additionally, the conduction of interviews poses some risks such as the biases an interview can entail, errors and misunderstandings in communication that can produce misleading information, and it must be considered that time and further restrictions limited the number of interviewees.

Moreover, the researcher is an outsider to the context and cultural and language restrictions could generate a bias in the data collected and its interpretation. Last but not least, the study was developed in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic in which restricting to the digital platforms and tools limited the data collection processes.

2. Theoretical framework

2.1 The Immigration Issue

2.1.1 Background to the current Immigration issue in Europe

Migration has always been an integrative element of social live and changes. Nevertheless, since the sixteenth century there has been an evident increase of migration, especially that on long distances. This responds to rapid changes that came with the development of the capitalist world; the nation-state formation, colonial expansions and imperialism that implied movement and caused forced migration due to conflicts, violence and the inequalities derived from them (Cohen, 1995) ¹.

In more recent times, technological progress has influenced rapid changes in global communications and long-distance travel. As Van Hear (1994) mentioned, a consequence of global communications is that images of life in the so-called developed world became available, even in distorted ways, to a significant proportion of the world's population. And with it, information and misinformation about opportunities, real or assumed. Along with the long-distance travel becoming easier, these have seemed to impact migration flows from the so-called Global South (van Hear, 1994). Heisler (1998) also noted on the effect of these two aspects at the global scale, and associates it with the building of transnational communities, in which migrants relate strongly to their origin and host countries, creating a bi-societal living.

The above mentioned bring us to the concept of networks, which has been of main importance in understanding migration. This concept refers to migrant

1 Cited in Castles, 2010.

communities, highlighting the collective agency in migration and integration processes; formal and informal networks provide resources for migrant individuals and communities (Castles, 2010). This comes with an expansion in the understanding of the migration processes linked to broader social changes at a wide range of territorial levels, and the awareness of the connectivity and mediation between them (Castles, 2010).

It is important to consider, along with the general pull and push factors, natural catastrophes and conflicts such as war, civil conflict, mass persecution, environmental degradation and misguided development projects; these result in involuntary migration of people across borders. Already by the end of the past century greater attention to refugees was granted, and more permanent settlements, the feminization of migration, increased illegal entries and a socio-economic differentiation among migrants were growing tendencies (van Hear, 1994).

For the current times, it is then of common knowledge how international migration has grown in a faster pace due to globalization, with regions of countries of origin clearly differentiating of those of destination in the so-called Global North, in which cities are being the main recipients of migrants.

2.1.2 General Views on Migration

It exists a dominant view of migration as a problem itself and in need of a solution to be given through policies. As Castles (2010) noted, migration itself is not the issue, in his view the problem relays in the inequalities generating most of South-North migration, which leads to marginalization and exploitation of immigrant groups. This does not suggest that “development” will reduce migration; greater equality would not mean less migration, but it would change its conditions. This reflection shows the need in understanding global migration as intertwined to broad socio-political everyday live modes and changes; what is understand by migration will then reflect in how it is addressed. Therefore, as Castles (2010) also points, this particular view on migration can only reflect policies that assure it as a problem; tight border controls and polices addressing “the cause of the problem” in origin countries (poverty, inequality, etc.).

In the European context, the recent increase of immigration has generated an ongoing debate in which contrasting views on migration come together. In one way it is as an opportunity to build a diverse social cohesion, and compensate

for the worker shortage and the demographic aging; meaning immigration is taken as a positive and needed contribution. In another way, increasing immigration flows are perceived as a threat to national cultures, a challenge for integration programs, regulatory migration laws, and finding ways to prevent and neutralize the diverse forms of discrimination towards immigrants (Pinto et al, 2020).

This last one, is a crucial factor in the settlement of the incoming population: the negative or critical attitudes of host society's individuals, for its known that immigration's main impacts are experienced locally. The resistance to accept foreigners as settlers is common in contemporary societies, many studies have focused on it as an expression of the impact on discrimination that "perceived immigration costs vs. benefits" has. They show how host country nationals, on the one hand, fear a major labor market competition and having immigrants as a burden to the welfare state (Dustmann and Preston, 2004; Harell et al., 2012; Hatton, 2016; Meuleman, 2018; Edo et al., 2019)². On the other hand, more positive views on immigration come from nationals who perceived that immigrants contribute to the national economy (Esses et al., 2001; Haubert and Fussell, 2006; Rouse et al., 2010; Reitz, 2012; Ekins, 2013)³.

Furthermore, views on immigration go along with perceptions and views on immigrants themselves; who is considered an immigrant and why? In the European context, Heisler (1998) poses interesting questions in this regard: are those considered immigrants from other European Union (EU) countries or from outside the EU? are they from a former colony? are they middle class professionals and skilled workers? are they lower class, unskilled or under-educated? are they willing and trying to integrate into the host country's society? As main lines to try and answer to these questions the author highlights how prejudice and preconceptions from host country individuals are often based on socio-economic classes distinctions and religion.

As a final though, another interesting view on migration is the one expressed by van Hear (1994), in which a paradox is introduced, being migration understand as "both integrative and disintegrative, at different levels and locations, and sometimes simultaneously".

2 Cited in Pinto et al, 2020

3 Cited in Pinto et al, 2020

2.1.3 Immigration Policies and Frameworks

Yamanaka (2010) reviews the comparative studies done by Cornelius and his associates (1994, 2004) on immigration policies in highly industrialized countries, in which two main hypotheses are analyzed: the “gap hypothesis” and the “convergent hypothesis”. The first one, relates the gaps between policies and their outcomes to the desire of these countries to achieve two contradictory objectives; control unskilled immigration and recruit immigrants in order to alleviate labor shortages. The second one refers to a growing resemblance among the immigration policies in these countries, because they are generally tending towards a similar set of policies. Yamanaka also notes how this second hypothesis becomes clearer at regional level, pointing to the nature of regional approaches on immigration policy. For instance, in Europe during the 1990s, EU members adopted similar policies on refugees and asylum seekers, as well as resembling nationality law, border control, and skill-based admission of immigrants.

At the general level immigration policies constitute two types of policies: those to regulate migration flows and those addressing immigrants’ integration. As explained by Padilla and França (2016), the first ones are mainly regulation policies directly related to border control. The second ones, promote the inclusion of migrants and their families into the host country’s society. The same authors point out how complex the process of law and policy-making is and how it can be moved by diverse motivations such as political and ideological motivations, concrete needs or humanitarian purposes. As well, they show how immigration policies could also be described as planned or reactive, noting the fact that many countries are more on the reactive side, since they respond to unintended outcomes or unexpected events and needs.

In line with this reactive character, we find the European Agenda on Migration of 2015, which intended to deal with the biggest migration flow since World War II. The European Commission implemented through it a set of political measures, based on solidarity and shared responsibility (European Commission, 2019). This overarching regional policy has four pillars: “reduction of incentives for irregular migration; strengthening of borders, protection and asylum; and integration and legal migration” (Pinto et al, 2020).

In the debate on migration some questions have arisen in relation to how to

move forward in the study and management of migration and immigration policies; they persist and are part of the current experiences and analysis approaches.

One of these is the question raised in the study by Heisler (1998) on how to look for the answers in diverse levels, since global or general levels are the predominant ones in the policy making but some of the issues to be addressed could only be tackled at the local level, through the study of the local communities and their individuals. In other words, being aware that aside from broad policies on political rights and the status of migrants, it is needed to look at the economic, social and cultural issues of immigrants' everyday life.

Another related point is the one at the center of Castles' study (2010), the need of embedding migration studies in Social Transformation Analysis processes; social transformation could give a solid basis for better understanding the links between human mobility and global change and act upon it. As condition to this, the author poses the need to suppress the "Receiving Country Bias" arguing most migration studies have taken the situation in destination countries as a base, without considering the perspectives of origin and transit countries and of migrants themselves. This has led to a wider approach and the cooperation of scholars from destination, transit and receiving countries, as well as international agencies for the creation of networks in the migration studies arena (Castles, 2010).

2.2 Views and dimensions of social integration

2.2.1 What is Social Integration?

There is not one definition of social integration, for it is often used as a general term related to concepts such as social inclusion and social cohesion, which are even used as synonyms for social integration in various cases and are, as well, contested.

Jeannotte (2008) refers to this, stating that the concept of social integration could be described as a "constellation of social terms" that are broadly used in policy development to designate a social process. The author refers to the lack of further studies in this concept and presents the definition of it, stated in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development in 1995, as one of the most accepted. Here social integration is defined as:

“... the process of fostering societies that are stable, safe and just and that are based on the promotion and protection of all human rights, as well as on nondiscrimination, tolerance, respect for diversity, equality of opportunity, solidarity, security and participation of all people, including disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and individuals. (Commitment 4)”. (Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, 1995)⁴

Behind this definition, lies a turn in the understanding of the term. In the view of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD, 1994) there were three main ways to understand the concept of social integration: as a positive inclusionary goal; as a negative imposition of uniformity; and as a description of patterns of social relations. By the end of last century, a new perspective came into play and understood social integration as a “Heightened Solidarity and Mutual Identification”. The new approach stood for a collective perception of fundamental institutions of society working poorly, where promoting conflict-free interactions and solidarity came as apriority; in this view, social integration opposes to “a process of disintegration”, so it needs to be a process in itself (UNRISD, 1994).

Understanding social integration as a process, Ferguson (2008) highlights how it would necessarily mean, not just a help for the disadvantaged groups, but a profound change in all social values, as well as institutions, that perpetuate unequal relationships in society; which brings the definition of it as: “the process of promoting the values, relations and institutions that enable all people to participate in social, economic and political life on the basis of equality of rights, equity and dignity.” (Ferguson, 2008 p.)

Social integration has been globally accepted as a requirement for a safe, stable and just society, which is essential for allowing a socially and economic sustainable development. This made its way to the high spheres of policy making in relation to values such as respect, tolerance, multiculturalism and diversity. In the international frameworks it is understood that social integration and cohesion is reinforced by inclusive social policies considering minorities, disadvantaged and marginalized groups, and that it can only be maintained if the respect for diversity is fully integrated (UNDP, 2020).

⁴ Cited in Jeannotte, 2008.

Even when in the policy making discourse, social integration is understood differently by different actors, it could be generally thought of as policies and measures targeting the goal of promoting social cohesion and the identification with the political community, by the strengthening of relations and the sharing of values and practices (Costa, 2016). Furthermore, what remains in the policy context is, as Wolfe (1994) stated, the importance of the question on how to identify patterns of integration towards more equitable societies, and not on how to increase integration per se.

2.2.2 Social Integration's dimensions and components

As well as its definition, the comprehension of social integration's components and dimensions is contested and diverse. For Ferguson (2008), the process of social integration has three main processes as components: The recognition of diverse social groups, cultures and identities; the representation of political voice in decision-making and resource allocation; and the redistribution of socio-economic resources among individuals and groups (Ferguson, 2008).

Another way to look at it is the one presented by Jenson in a 1998 study, as referred by Acket and associates (2011), in which a classification using five dimensions is done, in which each dimension shows opposites for a same field: Affiliation-Isolation, referring to a sharing of values and feeling of belonging; Insertion-Exclusion, referring to a shared market capacity; Participation-Passivity, or the involvement in public affairs; Acceptance-Rejection; regarding tolerance towards differences and pluralism; and Legitimacy-Illegitimacy, referring to how representative of the people institutions are.

A more simplified way to understand it, is breaking the concept into two wide dimensions: the vertical and the horizontal. This is the approach presented by the United Nations Development Programme (2020) when referring to the strengthening of social cohesion. Here, in the one hand the vertical dimension is defined as representing the trust between government and society, this refers to the trust people have in "political, economic or social leaders, institutions, and processes". This includes elections, access to justice system, taxation and budgeting systems and processes, and the provision of public services.

In the other hand, the horizontal dimension is defined as representing the trust and relationships between people. This, "across divisions such as identity or

other social constructs, including race or class”. Therefore, it is focused on society; it is in this dimension that it can be examined how unite, independent and trustworthy civil society organizations and institutions are (UNDP, 2020).

From another point of view, understanding social integration as local processes in the everyday life, these aspects of everyday life are exactly what correspond to the dimensions of integration and can be defined as three: the socioeconomic dimension, the cultural dimension, and the political and legal dimension (Regout, 2003)⁵. In this view, the socioeconomic dimension is related to access to housing, social assistance, education, employment and services. The cultural dimension is presented as more complex and subject to interpretation and implies minorities to acknowledge the values of the host society. Finally, the political and legal dimension is described as concerning the granting of political rights, that is the right to vote and be elected or the right to hold public jobs.

Even if it also a difficult and ambiguous process, breaking down the social integration concept is necessary in the policy making context, where indicators for it must be developed; a task that had been nothing but a big challenge. As Jeannotte (2008) pointed out, there are quantitative and statistical indicators for some expressions of economic integration such as employment and income; but agreeing on robust indicators for more qualitative expressions of social integration, such as trust, levels of live satisfactions, engagement and participation, is a way more difficult task.

2.2.3 Social Integration frameworks

According to the Division for Social Policy and Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2009), since the World Summit for Social Development social integration, along with eradication of poverty and creation of productive employment, was put as cornerstone of social development. However, it was not as studied and worked on as the other two, even though the three of them were assumed as interlinked. International frameworks for social integration, discussed in international conferences and policy documents, had failed to get incorporated in the international development debates and processes, while processes for poverty reduction and their discourses grew stronger and become the overarching goal of international development (Ferguson, 2008).

⁵ Cited in Ramos do Rosário, 2014.

This reflected in the 2000s in the quest for reviewing social integration frameworks and processes and policies around the globe to get to understand which ones were successful and worth supporting and upscaling; with it, the need for a more effective systems of international governance became evident as well. In line with this, Ferguson (2008) showed, that the international framework for social integration was developed in the base of the rights and concerns of specific disadvantaged groups. In Ferguson's work, after an analysis of the processes that social integration must undertake, a set of recommendations for such a framework for international and national policies to promote social integration is offered. Some of the most relevant state that these policies should: Establish social justice as principle; have inclusive and democratic processes; ensure standards that address the various dimensions of social provision; support the access of disadvantage groups to universal entitlements with targeted programs; and ensure the base for an equitable and dynamic labor market that can provide with decent work the whole of the population.

On the same track, the review done in the report by the Division for Social Policy and Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2009), presents a classification of these policies into five categories that can or should nurture social integration frameworks. The first ones would be policies targeting previously excluded specific groups (women, youth, the disabled). The second group are the general policies and policies targeting the legal-regulatory frameworks. The third one refers to policies to protect those with temporary and long-term disabilities (pro-poor policies and social protection policies). The fourth group is composed by policies promoting active civic participation. And lastly, policies promoting citizens' access to rights.

The above-mentioned report also draw as conclusion that applying the rights-based approach to the social policy meant a significant challenge for governments, for it must guarantee to all citizens the access to a minimum set of entitlements. As well, the policies promoting citizens' participation in policy design and implementation were highlighted as successful for fostering active involvement, presenting further positive impacts such as the empowerment of communities at the grass-roots level.

Another of the challenges noted, was finding ways to create synergies between universal and targeted policies, which is the most common and natural ap-

proach. Even though some countries could success on it, a number of challenges were faced, for gaps are common between policies and service provision and they are generally due to a lack of resources or will (DSPD, 2009). Such gaps were also found to be enlarged by insufficient technical skills, calling the attention for government support to capacity building (by the training of its officials at national and local level), as well as to community capacity building (fostering local participation and enhancing the abilities and capacities of local groups).

A final consideration by this report worth mentioning, is the consciousness of social integration frameworks and policies being a challenge not just for governments, but for the diverse segments of the society. This meaning common visions between government and civil society should be built; partnerships among these sectors are crucial, for policies showed to be more successful when they responded directly to the felt needs of communities (DSPD, 2009).

2.3 Immigrants social integration

2.3.1 Its relevance for Development

Within social integration, focuses on how groups integrate to the whole of the society are possible, in this case how immigrants get integrated into their host societies, therefore it can be designated as immigrants' social integration. Its importance relies in the position of priority that the migrant and refugee crisis have on the European political agendas.

As Wenzel (2015) declared, the social integration of migrants is an essential compound in the migration context that needs especial attention as it goes beyond the immediate responses that governments can and should give. It requires long-term sustainable solutions as this is the only mean through which the active participation and contribution of immigrants to the economic and socio-cultural life of the host country can be guarantee. Therefore, assuring the creation of inclusive societies with equal opportunities is a must which should be achieved in close relation with the protection of human rights and the access for immigrants to dignified housing, work, healthcare and education, including language learning for non-native speakers.

This understanding of the importance of immigrants' social integration has a major repercussion since 2015, when the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals included specifically the necessity of facilitate safe, regular and

responsible migration and mobility of people through adequate migration policies, both regulatory and for integration, among other means (Secretaria-Geral Ibero-Americana, 2017).

2.3.2 Governments' vs. Citizens' stands

As seen before, Europe stands together under a regional policy in the framework of the European Agenda on Migration. Nevertheless, as the European Commission (2015) stated, the competence lies primarily with the Member States; national governments are to conceive and apply effective integration policies for the migration policy to succeed. To do so governments are not by themselves as they receive support from the European Union for actions to foster social integration of migrants and the building of mutual trust with funding provided by the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the European Social Fund (ESF).

However, having national governments the major role to play, it is up to them to adopt a model of integration that bears in mind this is a two-way process and that gives an answer to the question of how newcomers can make use of their culture to adapt to the host country culture and nurture it. In this context, as Jeannotte (2008) expressed, culture should not be considered as homogenous, it should rather be understood as an “inventory of possibilities”, highlighting that if a cultural diversity is to be foster then it must find a way of seeing immigrants as participants of it and not as “the others”.

Different kinds of integration models result from different approaches, such as an assimilation model or a multicultural model. The adoption of the first one carries a high risk as it means the cultural deprivation of immigrants (Meira, 2010), therefore it is no longer a common model for governments to adopt, mixed models with greater proximity to an intercultural approach are rather adopted. Integration models that are more open to facilitate immigrants' settlement, grant citizenship and accept cultural diversity serve as a tool to combat the formation of ethnic minorities, exclusion, marginalization and the negative perception of migrants by the national population (van Hear, 1994).

A concept introduced at this point is the one of citizenship, which is strongly linked to identity. Immigration can mean as well interruptions to the idea of national identity and unity by making the host society ask itself how are national

core identifications, traditions and values maintain in a pluricultural context. And, moreover, how to cope with the demands on tolerance and understanding that the concurrence of people who does not have a common language, religion or customs suppose. As declared by Van Hear (1994), this in turn poses the question of what citizenship means, who is a citizen and how an immigrant can become one. Policies for immigrants' social integration and their impact in notions of citizenship can affect the attitudes of individuals of the host society towards immigrants. Negative attitudes can easily result in patterns of discrimination and exclusion which, as Wenzel (2015) noted, also affect the second generation, and perpetuated a situation of exclusion or even marginalization.

Such negative attitudes, are also influenced by the perception of immigrants' actions and activities in the host country. Acket and partners (2011) recall in their study how violent episodes involving immigrants, such as the ones affecting the banlieues in Paris, have a strong impact on the mindset and attitudes towards migrants. Reinforcing this point, they also mentioned results of European elections in Italy expressing a growing fear of Italians towards the migration process and demand for more safety. The events of racism and xenophobia happening in many European countries were also brought into the argument.

Such a break within social ties among immigrants and the host society members require then a huge effort involving the increase of awareness, the strengthening of the understanding of the sources of preconceptions and misconceptions, when they exist, and the deconstruction of them. As Pires (2016) well explains, these are all efforts to be done in the local level for it is there where the constant interactions of immigrants with the host society become tangible. The recognition of this has progressively gain strength in the political and scientific discourses on immigrants' social integration, as well as in the context of national and international organizations and official bodies.

Pires also reflects on how from this understanding, the importance given to the cooperation between the different levels of governance and diverse actors went in a rise, getting international conferences and compromises to state that "integration is essentially a local process", therefore having cities as the main stage for the achievement of the goals of the Common European Agenda for Integration makes sense, as well as its support to municipalities and civil society's initiatives.

2.3.3 Implications

The current approach to the social integration of immigrants implies that integration models should come closer to the local levels. Therefore, they should include more bottom up approaches through collective decision-making processes grounded on networks and partnerships of civil society and the governmental bodies (Pires, 2016).

This implies as well, a changing idea in the role of the state, going from a “regulating” one to a “facilitating” one; participatory methodologies that get to mobilize the local human resources and enhance a joint reflection and action, involves and holds civil society, the public sector, and the business sector accountable (ACERT et al., 2015 in Pires, 2016).

Additionally, as Van Hear (1994) points, implications on the relationships of immigrants with their origin country, their host country and their transnational arena should also be accounted for in their social, political and economic dimensions. As well the opposite direction must be considered; the implication that changes in patterns of migration and return migration suppose for the immigrant’s social integrations processes.

2.4 Immigrant Associations and Immigrants’ Social Integration

2.4.1 What is Civil Society?

What is understood by Civil Society and the kind of actors that compose it can vary from definition to definition. Therefore, some of the delimitations of what could be understood by civil society are presented here to have a broad notion of its meaning.

In Gonzáles-Murphy’s study (2009), a review on the meanings of civil society is done, in which stands out the understanding of civil society as a counterbalance to political and economic interests, even though it works in relation to both state and market. Within the main understandings of civil society featured in this study, we found a broad one stating that empirically the term describes a sphere of society, which is the social space between individuals and primary social groups and the political authority. In this same broad sense, this social space can be thought as filled by autonomous associations and institutions, highlighting its independence of the state as the main characteristic of civil society. In the mentioned study, it is also discussed how, generally, the term of civil society has been used to designate the sphere of private voluntary associ-

ation in all its forms, and how it has grown strong enough to be considered as an essential component of democracy. This has given it acceptance as “the third sector” in processes of development and economic growth and stability, due to its capacities to foster participation and civic actions.

González-Murphy' (2009) also refers to the view of some scholars of civil society as an answer to the incapacity of the state, by removing burdens from it when they work as alternative social services providers. Another emphasized view on civil society is the one, that centering in its independence from the government, understands it as capable of generating resistance to it. Additionally, a view of it as inclusive political associations is presented, in which civil society plays a role in political compromises for reconciling diverse interests in a harmonious way.

After the revision of the diverse concepts and views on civil society, the author presents a definition for civil society that frames the study done. In González-Murphy's view, civil society can be defined as:

“the sphere of institutions, organizations, networks, and individuals located between the confines of the family, the state, and the market, in which people associate voluntarily, to advance common interests” (González-Murphy', 2009, p.11).

In another study, the one conducted by Yamanaka (2010), civil society is presented as well as a social sphere, one in which government and market socially interact and being composed by the intimate social sphere of families, the sphere of associations, social movements and the various forms of public communication. In this view, social movements are placed as the main catalyzer for the democratic potential of civil society.

2.4.2 Nature of Immigrants Organizations and Associations

What its actually being designated by migrant civil society? Fox (2005) puts it in very simple terms as migrant-led membership organizations and public institutions. The author also points how this might include different forms of civil organization such as: migrant-led membership organizations (ranging from local associations and clubs to worker organizations and religious congregations); migrant-led communications media (local newspapers or radio programs, independent channels and internet channels); migrant-led NGOs; and autonomous migrant-led public spaces (public gatherings for migrants' interaction in a base

of culture, freedom and autonomy).

As focus in this study is within organizations and associations, a more specific understanding of what is meant by these terms is required. In more acute terms, as Cordero-Guzmán (2005) places it, immigrant organizations are formed by members of a specific ethnic or national origin group, and have the purpose to serve immigrants from that same group. This meaning they are differentiated from other kinds of organizations in their explicit cultural components and ethnic or national-origin identification.

Going forward with Cordero-Guzmán (2005) approach, immigrant organizations can be classified in a wide range of ways depending on the criteria used, such as their mission, their type of services, who they serve, where are they located, who are they led by, or who is part of the working staff. Considering the diversity of criteria, the author identifies three major or broad types of immigrant organizations: immigrant groups, associations and clubs; immigrant organizations that are formally constituted as non-profit organizations; and social service providers at a large scale (city or metropolitan).

In regard to how and why this organizations are formed it is seen by the author that they tend to be born in immigrant groups that are relatively large and growing; as an immigrant community settles, it begins to develop a sense of their needs, noting as well which particular needs require a particular approach sensitive to their cultural needs. Setting this as the starting point, three more factors are essential for organizations formation: a social-service professional and human-resource base within the immigrant community; connections to the local or municipal social service structure or system; and organizational resources and capacity.

As for immigrant associations, as seen in the above-mentioned broad classification, they are defined as a first and perhaps simple form of organization. Furthermore, as Sardinha (2009) exposes, is key to their understanding the concept of 'voluntary'; there is self-intended choice to associate. From this author's point of view, associative activity maintains "democratic liberties" in order and in the particular case of immigrant associations it maintains both integration and national-origin identification liberties ensured. This meaning they could also seek to maintain their ethno-cultural identity and emphasize on the pres-

ervation of it. The important factor is that a sense of group identification works as a platform for participation and political activity towards increasing access to opportunities and services in the host society.

Ultimately, immigrant organizations and associations are both understood as organized immigrant social groups, dealing with how they can contribute to the community social integration and cultural processes.

2.4.3 Role of Immigrant Organizations and Associations in Social Integration

The focus on Development and the increase in the support for local actions has strengthened involvement of civil society as necessary for the every-day life processes related to political, economic and social structures. According to the European Commission (2007), in relation to the role of civil society, the important question to be asked is how to build connections with the governmental bodies in order to provide the best services to users while allowing organizations to maintain their identity. This keeping in mind that the relationships between civil society and the state and service providers can express different patterns, being either complementary or in competition, well-coordinated or duplicated. The challenge behind this main question is then to reach partnerships making use of their common interests and their different strengths.

The main role that organizations and associations have played in immigrants' social integration is the provision of services that, in so many cases, the state fails to provide. Some of these services, as reviewed by Cordero-Guzmán (2005), include: legal advice for individuals and families on immigration status processes; language learning; services for individuals undergoing special circumstances such as crime victim, disability, domestic violence, emergency, or HIV/AIDS services; services for particular sub-groups such as children, senior-citizen, women, or youth.

Nevertheless, as González-Murphy (2009) and Bebbington, Hickey and Mitlin (2008) noted, civil society organizations have grown to represent, as well, the community in policy making. The aim is to influence the migration policy making processes at different stages including problem identification, formulation and adoption; implementation; and monitoring and evaluation. Other important roles assigned to immigrants organizations and associations in the frame

of immigrants' social integration, as according to the European Commission (2007) are: awareness raising, by drawing attention to problems they deal with closely and through migrants' personal experiences and by suggesting improvements to the relevant officials; training and consulting, by becoming a knowledge or expertise centers able to produce educational material and train or advise traditional services providers and members of the official authorities; and creating processes and strategies, by becoming active in the integration process and developing integration concepts and strategies with local key actors. This last role of civil society is of great value as it touches upon relevant questions within the community, such as which are the common overall goals for social integration and how they can be achieved, and which are the main community's needs and problematics.

Equally important functions of these immigrant organizations within the social integration processes, as noted by Cordero-Guzmán (2005), are: the development and maintenance of networks; the construction of community resources or 'social capital'; and the maintenance of bonds to the countries of origin. These functions are directly related to the role of immigrant organizations and associations as "community insiders". This works in combination with their role as mediators; they are intervening actors in defending immigrants' rights, and echoing the communities' voices and lobbying for their well-being (Sardinha, 2009). This, in term, links to how immigrant organizations and associations are engaged in complex relationships with government officials.

2.4.4 Immigrant Organizations and Associations and Strategies for Social Integration

In this section, some particular cases are brought to exemplify the work and actions of immigrant organizations and associations in contributing to immigrants' social integration.

Two cases in Albany Park neighborhood in Chicago (with a high concentration of immigrant population) were studied by Theodore and Martin (2007) in which strategies for intervention to address identified market failures were formulated by migrant organizations; showing the important role they play in immigrant incorporation, civic engagement, political mobilization and in improving the neighborhood quality of life.

The first case refers to the “Balanced Development Coalition”, which was not intended to be a permanent organization, their strategy rather consisted in presenting themselves as a collaboration where immigrant organizations surpassed geographical and ethnic divisions to work together with other segments of civil society sharing common worries about the preservation of affordable housing (Theodore and Martin, 2007). In this sense, they were more a social movement with the objective to put pressure on policy change using as medium street theatre, participation in parades, political action, testimony at City Council hearings, neighborhood organizing, and policy advocacy. The coalition successfully placed the gentrification issue at the center of Chicago’s policy debate.

The second case refers to the work of the “Latino Union of Chicago” to defend day laborers’ rights and move forward towards the establishment of a worker center for day laborers to look for employment without suffering from harassment and abuse (Theodore and Martin, 2007). Their actions came as alternatives to the situation created by a lack of regulatory measures from the government to safeguard day laborers rights and showed that improving their working conditions required strategies targeting employers and the government. The efforts of the Union included advocating for better enforcement of labor laws; demanding monitoring from government regulatory agencies; lobbying for employment policy reforms; seeking unpaid wages from employers; and creating worker centers and community hiring halls.

A case showing how immigrant organizations can strategically work along the government’s structures and system is the one reviewed by Gonzáles-Murphy (2009). This case shows how immigrant organizations in Mexico are taking advantage of the political opportunities made available by enhancement laws and other government mechanisms. Such political enhancements make it possible for organizations to transform their collaborative efforts identifying and addressing various issues of interest into proposals for key public policies that can actually be negotiated with the Congress and other authorities.

The author points out how important it is in such relationships a strong organization’s demand-making capacity, along with good policy dialogue functions, continuous policy monitoring, and the ability to interact with public policy makers to foster accountability and transparency in their processes. A concrete action example within this case, was the engagement of organizations in the

development of the 2008 immigration law once the first draft was done an open to discussion and improvement.

The case of immigrant organizations in Spain documented by López-Sala and Godenau (2019) shows as well this kind of organizations-government relationships and possible consequences. In this case, the government increased interest in having bottom-up migrant policy making processes, has led to a significant participation of the third sector but making it highly dependent of public funding. In such processes the organizations have work as subcontractors for the government policy-making bodies, and through the years such a model had immense impacts in the organizations' structures and actions. This meaning it has made the organizations more professional and bureaucratic, complex and bigger in their staff composition; in the sight of many they have come to be perceived as extensions of the government institutions.

This, argue the authors, have leave a current situation in which the immigrant civil society is highly fragmented and dispersed, with subsidies concentrated only in the few large, technically specialized associations and organizations. Nevertheless, this generated a current shift in organizations as a result of acknowledging the risk of their dependency, moving their activities from intervention projects to advocacy work, and searching for alternative private funding, including crowdfunding. This has as well resulted in new emergent organizations, as alternatives to more formal and bureaucratic ones, that defend the rights of immigrants and document the diverse kinds of violation and abuse they are subject to.

The two situations reviewed by Yamanaka (2010), in Japan and Korea, show cases in which is evidenced how relevant the participation of nationals of the host country in civil society defending immigrants' rights, and how state structures and political frameworks result in different ways and levels of political action by immigrant organizations and associations. In the case of Japan, state regulations highly constrain the political potential of the civil society, while in Korea a confrontational tradition enables it to become a powerful political force capable of contesting the state.

In the one hand, for the Japan case, Yamanaka refers to the Korean community in Japan and their struggle to fight discrimination, in which legal processes in

courts where essential as well as the work of Japanese nationals forming informal organizations to effectively help migrants through their processes. These organizations were themselves very restricted by the national frameworks and their lack of resources, including human resources. Thus, they were dedicated generally to the provision of basic services such as language classes, cultural programs, legal consultation, and help in basic individual problems.

In the other hand, Korea's civil society working on behalf of immigrant workers actually began with the Foreign Workers Labor Counseling Office founded by the Archdiocese of Seoul. Along the leadership of Christian and Protestant churches, human rights workers, labor unionists among others, formed organizations for the defense of immigrants' rights. After huge protests by the Nepalese community, public opinion became critical of the immigrants' situation and the government policies on it; which gave strength to the civil society actions and campaigns. Through public rallies, sit-ins and even hunger strikes, civil society got to pressed the government to change their policies regarding work permits for immigrants.

Finally, the case of immigrant NGOs in Beijing and their initiatives studied by Hsu (2012) shows an example of how partnering and actively engaging with government institutions and collaborators, serve these organizations as a strategy to expand their "space", this meaning their scope of action and target population. According to Hsu, the nine NGOs involved in this study where all contributing, through their initiatives, to improve welfare provision to migrant workers, this as a result of shared work with the government.

One of the attributes of their success in expanding their "space", as reported by the study, is the lack of a sole focus on immigrant population. They rather focus in their local community development so that a wide range of the community's issues can be targeted; working on immigrant population's issues is recognized within a frame of improving the community as a whole. This results in these NGOs working in bigger projects through links with local governments and other state levels.

Once more, as in the Spain case, some interpret this close collaboration as limiting or defining the NGOs work and actions, and as a way for the govern-

ment to prevent any political disturbances. The study points out as well the lack of collaboration within the organizations themselves, keeping them of having a bigger impact, and how a future development would require of collaborative work between the NGO sector and other civil society actors.

2.5 Conceptual framework

As a closure to the exposed in this theoretical framework, a synthesis of the concepts and ideas that would be taken forward for the present study and their definitions within it, is exposed in this section. This is done through the following concept map in which relationships between concepts are also displayed.

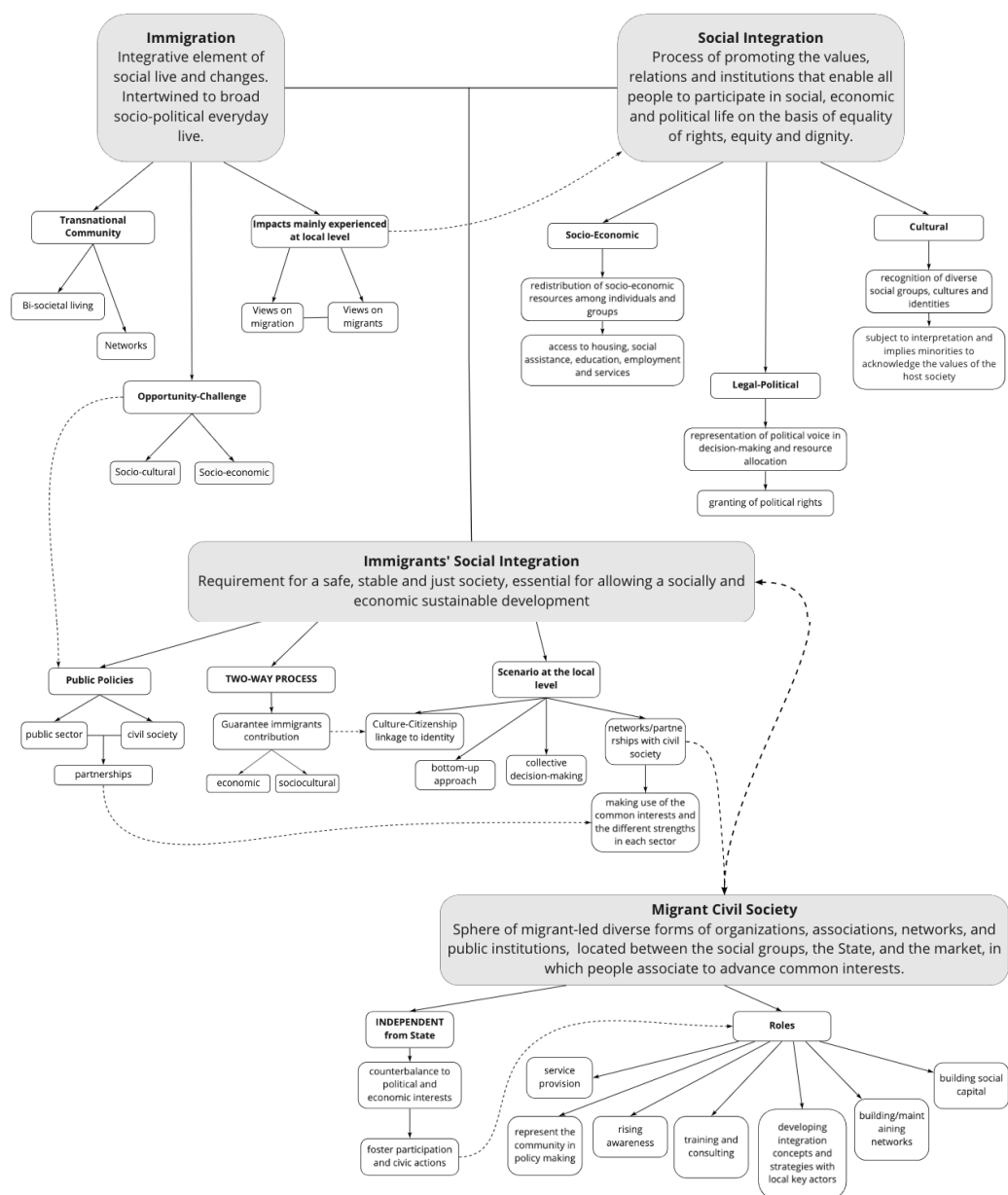


Fig. 1. Conceptual framework map
Source: Author

3. Case Study: Portugal

3.1 Immigration in Portugal and LMA

3.1.1 An emigration and immigration country

Portugal has historically been an emigration country, to central and north Europe, but it has grown to be, as well, a destination country. According to various scholars, reports and data records the migration situation of the country can be divided in 4 moments.

The first one goes until the 1960's, when emigration was high and immigration was minor and primarily composed by Europeans. The second moment started by the end of the 1960's, when the colonial war and the industrial expansion of LMA led to employment opportunities in construction and unskilled services for the first wave of incoming Cape Verdean, who became foreigners only after the independence in 1975 (Fonseca, 1998). This decolonization in 1975, was a key factor in the increase of immigrants and their diversification. Portugal started receiving nationals not only from Cape Verde but from other Portuguese Speaking African Countries (PSAC), such as Angola, Mozambique and Guinea Bissau.

The third moment, as referenced by Gaspar-Silva (2018), was marked by Portugal's entrance to the European Economic Community in 1986 leading to economic leverage. According to Malheiros (2000), this was also a diversification period with an intensification of the immigration of Indians, Pakistanis, Chinese and Brazilians. The 1980s and 1990s are characterized by the diversification of African immigrants with the significant rise in arrivals of Angolans and Guineans. Although Brazilian migration, which grew in representation during

this period, is also linked to labor migration, it is differentiated from the PSAC migration, for the coming Brazilians had a higher social and economic level. The internationalization of the Portuguese economy also produced a rise in the incoming Europeans, specially from north and central Europe, as highly qualified workers in international enterprises. As well, north Americans came to fill these positions.

The fourth moment would be the present one; the last two decades. In this period the Brazilian migration has grown to be the most numerous immigrant community and a diversified group, having recently less qualified incomers and more women. According to the data registered by the UN on its 2019 report, in 2019 there were in Portugal 888.162 Immigrants, representing an 8,63% of the total population. During this last two decades the immigration has grown but the emigration trends have been kept more or less stable, adding north America as a new destination of the Portuguese emigration.

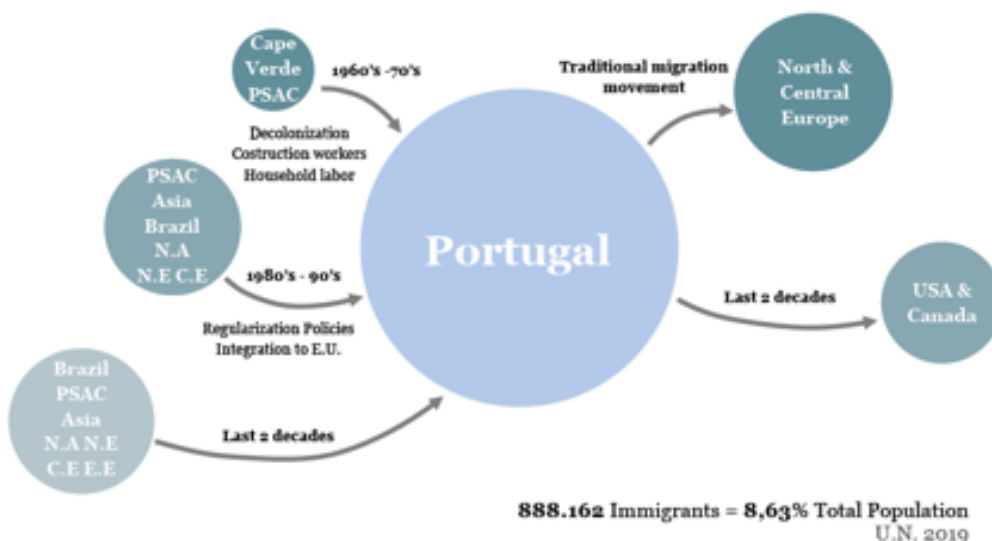


Fig. 2. Portugal: Emigration & Immigration
Source: Author

3.1.2 Immigration in LMA

The LMA is composed of 18 municipalities divided into two districts, Lisbon and Setúbal. With a total area of 4,643.26km², it is 5.2% of mainland Portugal's surface area. For 2015 it had 2,8 million inhabitants from which a 22% were immigrants. The high concentration of immigrants in the LMA is explained by it being the capital and main center of economic activity. It is also where the construction and public works sectors had the most dynamic growth after the addition of Portugal to the EU; sectors that took the incoming migrants from PSAC.

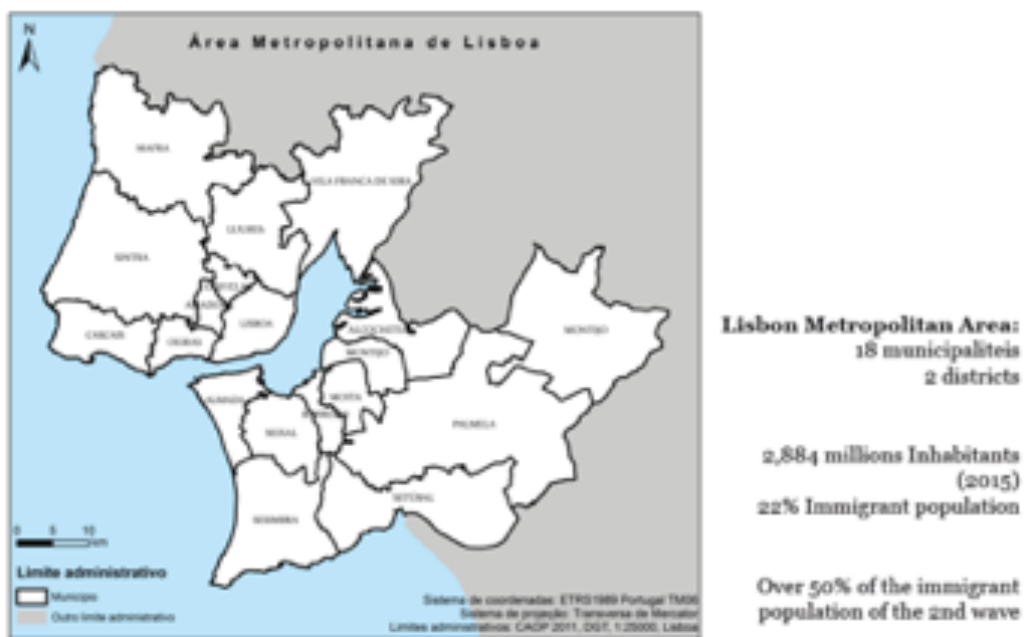


Fig. 3. Lisbon Metropolitan Area

Source: Over write based on U.N. Habitat. (2017). "Migratory profile of the city: Lisbon. Executive summary".

This means LMA was the region gaining the bigger number of immigrants at that moment, some stipulated it was over the 50%. The social and employment structure of the working population showed that the largest group was made up of industrial, construction and transport workers (48.87%), followed by highly skilled professionals and technical staff and others related (23.7%) (Fonseca, 1998).

Since 1975, with the increasing numbers of immigrants coming primarily to the LMA, there was a growing demand for housing that could not be covered by

formal and private markets or by social housing. Consequently, there was an accumulated shortage of housing and a parallel informal housing market. In this parallel market rooms were sublet, as well as parts of flats in Lisbon's historic and old neighborhoods and in slums and illegal residential areas in the suburbs and immediacies. The settlement of immigrant groups implied as well a significant demographic growth, in the decade from 1991 to 2001, approximately 80% of the growth of the resident population was caused by net migration (Malheiros and Vala, 2004).

3.1.3 Past policies and processes

The development of the 1990's is crucial to the political and socio-spatial situation regarding immigrant population in LMA and Portugal, this decade brought immigration to the local and national policy agendas, which in turn generated a series of programs and actions. One of the most important were the large-scale operations to legalize irregular immigrants; between 1992 and 2004 five extraordinary regularization programs took place followed by an ordinary provision for regularization in 2007.

Table 1 Regularization processes, 1992–2007

Year	1992–1993	1996	2001	2003	2004	2007
Successful Applicants	39,166	35,082	183,833	16,173	N.A.	N.A.
Legal title	Resident Permits	Resident Permits	Stay Permits	Work Visas	Work Visas	Resident Permits

Source: SEF (Aliens and Borders Service).

Fig. 4. Table of Regularization Processes in Portugal 1992-2007
Source: SEF as cited in Peixoto and Sabino, 2009.

Along with this regularization processes, in the 1990s the Portuguese government integrated measures to assure the rights of immigrant communities and improve their living conditions by fighting illegal labor, assuring that they enjoyed the same labor rights as Portuguese workers, and that they had eligibility for a guaranteed minimum income and the Special Re-housing Program just like Portuguese workers and families did (Fonseca, 1998). This last one, approved in 1993, promoted the construction of 31,000 houses between 1994 and 2005 and enabled the significant reduction of the so-called “non-classic dwellings” in the suburbs of Lisbon and Porto (Costa, 2016).

As showed in Gaspar-Silva's study (2018), this contributed to the relatively static location of immigrants from PSAC in LMA, who were already the only immigrant group over represented in specific areas of the metropolitan area, namely the intervened slums areas located in the first peripheries of the city of Lisbon. Immigrants from the PSAC then benefited from the construction of low-cost private urbanizations and an easier access to the housing market. This same study, presents such over representation of the PSAC communities in the areas of the first ring of LMA could be understood as a social-spatial segregation of these communities. But it clarifies that the location of these specific immigrant groups and their static location responds primarily to the socio-economic conditions from this group that have low and keep the them as one of the socially vulnerable groups in the LMA. Nevertheless, according to analysis on the location of immigrants in Southern European cities, they show lower segregation levels than those for immigrants in Northern and Central European cities. As Malheiros and Vala (2004) stated this was explained by two key factors: the specific features of immigration (being recent and diverse) and the particular urban development history (including characteristics such as late industrialization and suburbanization, little public housing, and higher socio-spatial mix); which is the case for the LMA.

This decade also introduced bases towards social integration policies. According to Teixeira and Albuquerque (2005), the Coordinating Secretariat for Programs of Multicultural Education, created in 1991 within the Ministry of Education and later re-named as the Secretariat Entreculturas, was one of the first steps for the development of a structured policy for the integration of immigrants. Its main objective was to assure equal opportunity of access and educational success for children with diverse ethnic backgrounds, and the development of intercultural education at schools.

3.2 Current status of immigrant population in LMA

3.2.1 Main immigrant communities

The Cape Verdean and Brazilian community are the most representative and traditional immigrant groups in Portugal. With Chinese and Angolans, they represent the most important foreign nationalities living in Lisbon. Nonetheless, since 2008 there have been an increase in the proportion of Indian immigrants in the city (CIDPM, 2018). Along with these groups, the whole block of PSAC is also of great trajectory and remains as of great importance in the city and coun-

try. New migrations waves also feature an increase of immigrants from Eastern European countries, such as Ukraine, Moldavia, Romania, and the Russian Federation (Teixeira and Albuquerque, 2005).

In regards to refugee population, Portugal has a reduced one. Between 2008 and 2014 the country received an average of 250 asylum seekers per year, having as main origin countries Syria, and after 2013 Ukraine. In line with the European response to the refugee issue in 2015, Portugal has committed to relocate 4,574 refugees, of which 10% would be settled in Lisbon (CIDPM, 2018).

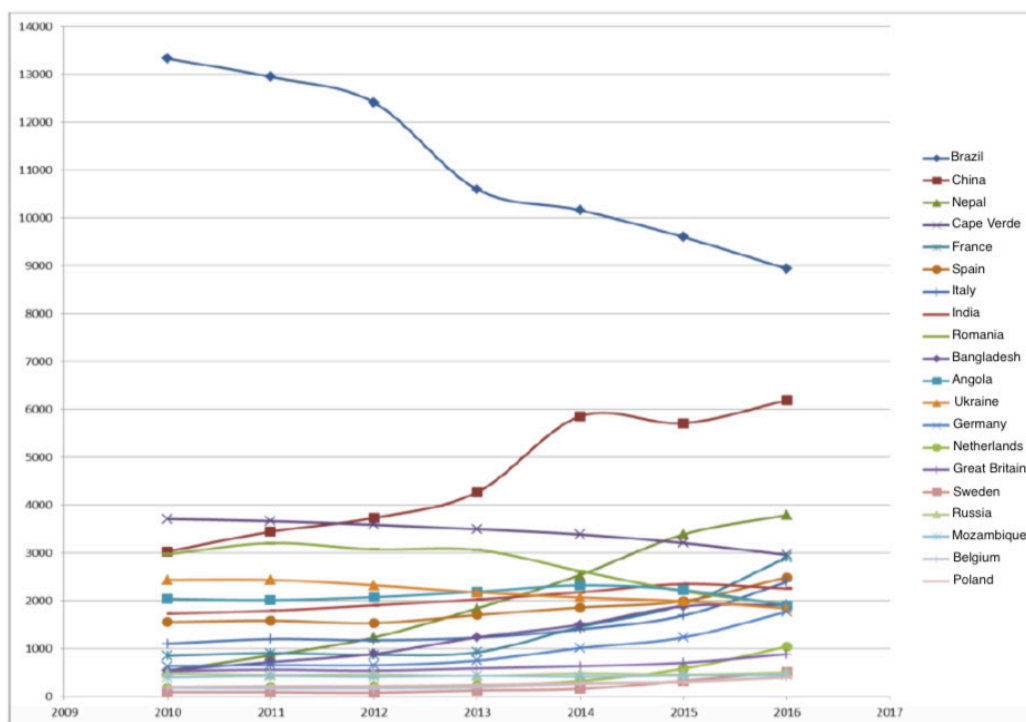


Fig. 5. Foreign population with legal residence status in Lisbon by country of origin, variation from 2010 to 2016

Source: CML, 2018.

3.2.2 Current major trends

Since 2008 due to the economic and financial crisis, there has been an increase in emigration from Portugal and a decrease in its net immigration. However, in the recent years Lisbon has maintain a trend of increasing immigrant population, opposite to the decreasing trend in the Metropolitan Area and the country as a whole (CIDPM, 2018).

A significant characteristic of the recent immigration is the maintenance of a rising number of immigrant women, although male immigrant population still represents the 52% according to data from 2008 – 2015 (CIDPM, 2018). There has also been an increase in the number of descendants of immigrants born in Portugal who have obtained Portuguese nationality (ACM, 2015).

In relation to the labor market, there is a difference between foreigners and nationals in terms of educational attainment, qualification levels, and employment status. A significant gap between salaries earned by foreigners and Portuguese is noticed, which is not favorable to the Portuguese only in the more qualified and intermediate ranks (Costa, 2016). Variable on nationality is unemployment, with lower rates among foreigners from EU countries, almost equal to those of the Portuguese (6%), whereas for other groups they are higher, reaching 18% for the PSAC (CIDPM, 2018). This is related to how the situation of poverty and social exclusion affects differently the foreign population; according to the Câmara Municipal de Lisboa (2018) nationals from other European countries have more beneficial conditions in comparison with other nationalities.

According to Costa (2016) it is a major trend among immigrant population the perception of being subject to discrimination in the workplace. On this regard, the Câmara Municipal de Lisboa (2018) have registered in recent years an increase in ethnic-based discrimination complaints received, being the Brazilian community, the main group filing such complaints. Additionally, the institution points out that Portugal still does not prohibit hate crimes by law nor has produced a national system to collect data on hate crimes and as city authority works towards the promotion of multicultural expressions and intercultural dialogue acknowledging the challenge this suppose.

In the realm of public opinion, according to Costa (2016) a pragmatic view of immigration predominates, recognizing it as needed for the development of

economy, while supporting that entry to the country should depend on the existence of job offers, creating in turn an association between ethnic groups, unemployment and undeclared work. This determines immigrants' access to the public sphere which is kept somewhat limited, a reflection of it is the low level of visibility of immigrant associations despite having a high number of them, the existence of few ethnic media outlets and the limitation of contacts with people from different cultural groups to the workplace and public realms; which does not enable interaction and mutual knowledge.

3.2.3 General attitudes towards immigrants

According to the Secretaria-Geral Ibero-Americana (2017) Portugal prioritized in its migration policy the attention to discrimination, racism and xenophobia after reports in 2012 showed that, regarding attitudes towards immigrants, the Portuguese population in general presented a negative one and was in favor of reducing the number of immigrants. Such reports also showed that the economic contribution of immigrants was positively valued, although it decreases in the most socially fragile sectors, as well as cultural enrichment. Additionally, immigrants having the same rights as the Portuguese was considered a positive fact, but it is noted that in a critical economic situation the perception would be less favorable. In relation to the diverse nationalities, Africans were more highly valued than Brazilians, and the highest levels of distrust were associated with immigrants from Eastern Europe.

However, according to the 2015 European Social Survey, Portugal was the EU country where public perception of immigration improved the most, nevertheless diverse researches show that in the LMA specific groups are subject to stigma and negative perceptions. Such affected groups include: African immigrants or Portuguese of African origin, associated with antisocial or abnormal behavior; Portuguese citizens of Roma ethnicity, associated with being “violent, savage, thieves and dirty”, which is a deeply rooted and still prevalent stigma; and Brazilian women, who are stereotyped as “exotic and easy” and are often associated with prostitution (CIDPM, 2018).

As a response to this, the City Council and the Lisbon Plan for Immigrant Integration strengthened the commitment to address these preconceived perceptions of migration and immigrants, posing a long-term approach to combat negative perceptions and the exclusion of immigrants in Lisbon, for as noted by

Meira (2010), the city has long stood their view in acknowledging the impact of the immigrant population in the local level, reflected in greater socio-economic development.

A still relevant discussion is the one on the role of media in the perception of immigration and immigrants. As reported by Teixeira and Albuquerque (2005), studies concluded that the most covered topics by the national print media, in relation to immigrant population, were associated with “crime and offenses,” followed by topics related to the “reception of immigrants,” “sociability,” and “exploitation and mafia”. This came in relation to studies showing that the topic most frequently associated with immigrants and ethnic groups in the national population was actually “crime”.

The national institutions and authorities reaffirm themselves in recognizing migration as a positive impact on society in its different dimensions, and acknowledge five challenges in relation to it, as described by the High Commissariat for Migrations (2015): combating the demographic deficit; consolidating the integration and empowerment of immigrant communities; integrating new nationals, by acquisition of nationality for descendants from immigrants; responding to international mobility, through internationalization of the Portuguese economy and valuing migration and talent as incentives to economic growth; monitoring Portuguese emigration, by establishing ties and strengthening the conditions for returning.

3.3 Public Policies for social integration of immigrant population in Portugal and LMA

3.3.1 Main national policies

There is a created image of Portugal being an open and welcoming country for immigrants. Such an image has been supported by a good evaluation of the country’s migration policies; reports carried out by the United Nations, the Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) and the European Union ranked Portugal on the top of best integration policies (Padilla and França, 2016). Such reports reveal how Portugal stands out with the best practices on rights related to family reunification, political liberties and acquisition of dual nationality. The country also shows a good performance in topics related to accessing the labor market, entrepreneurship by immigrants and fighting unemployment among immigrants (Meira, 2010).

Integration plans in Portugal were first adopted in the 2000s, known as the IIPs. As described by Padilla and França (2016) these were political plans developed to assure the integration of immigrants in Portuguese society, giving special attention to the reinforcement of social cohesion, a better integration process and cultural diversity governance, and presented the State as the major ally to immigrants' integration. These programs were developed from a joint work of all ministries, councils, academia and the civil society organizations; there was a construction process based on data collection in a bottom-up approach in the identification of issues and proposal of solutions (Casas, 2016). In broad terms, the measures in the IIPs were of two types: informing, sensitizing, and training immigrants; and empowering the sectors of public administration that have the most contact with minorities to deal with their specificity.

In regards to the current plan, the Strategic Plan for Migration PEM, it is presented by the High Commissariat for Migration (ACM, 2019) as an articulated cross-cutting strategy to address migration based on five priority axes:

- Axis I – Policies for immigrant integration
- Axis II - Policies to promote the inclusion of new nationals
- Axis III - Policies for the coordination of migratory flows
- Axis IV - Policies for the reinforcement of migratory legality and the quality of migratory services
- Axis V - Policies to reinforce the connection, accompaniment and support to the return of emigrant nationals

The PEM came after the IIPs and responded to the evaluation of them and challenges that changes in migration patterns posed. As for the time being the ACM (2015) reported positive results in diverse fronts of the migration policies and acknowledged how integration has been essentially labor-oriented and favored the integration of low-skilled immigrants. The ACM also described, for 2015, immigration in the country as polarized, composed by highly qualified and low qualified immigrants, and with significant seasonal and circular immigration, making it important to design integration policies for these as well.

Padilla and França (2015) noted even though the PEM has innovative initiatives it does not consider previous contributions of PIIs concerning immigration issues, such as gender, elder immigrants, housing, justice, racism and discrimination, access to citizenship and civil participation. Additionally, it has an

excessive emphasis on the attraction of high qualified immigrants and investors and there is a reincorporation of the old regulation discourse with emphasis in border control.

3.3.2 Local policies

Recognizing integration as a process at the local level, in 2014 the ACM called on municipalities to create Municipal Plans for Immigrant Integration (PMII). As describe by ACM, they incorporate the concerted strategies for action of the different entities addressing migration at the local level to contribute to the process of integration of immigrants. As noted by Pires (2016), these Plans aim to increase the level of local intervention, favoring a model that puts value in cultural diversity and guaranteeing the rights of immigrants. Though, they are not only focused on immigrants, but on intercultural coexistence targeting all citizens. Pires also summarizes requirements for the development of the Municipal Plans stated by the ACM as follows:

They should follow a bottom-up approach; should be based on a participatory local diagnosis; should have a follow-up by a Platform representative of all sectors; should make use of a predefined common structure.

In the case of the current Municipal Plans for Immigrant Integration in Lisbon, the 2018-2020 PMIML as presented by the Municipal Chamber of Lisbon CML (CML, 2018), it has followed the bottom-up approach involving different entities and the civil society working in immigrant reception and integration at the local level, mainly immigrant associations. The participant associations are considered by CML as partner entities and recognized as a fundamental network to ensure the Municipal Plan execution and development.

The plan aims to: “consolidate the intervention in the area of migration in the city of Lisbon, providing concerted and effective responses that represent a qualitative leap in the reception and integration of immigrant people, especially the most vulnerable sections of the population, with a view to promoting equality, parity and interculturality” (CML, 2018). To achieve it, it divides its measures for immigrant social integration in three main axes:

- Axis I: Reception and rights
- Axis II: Integration and participation
- Axis III: Interculturality

Axis I: Reception and rights	Axis II: Integration and participation	Axis III: Interculturality
Welcoming and Integration Services	Labor Market and Entrepreneurship	Culture
Urbanism and Housing	Training and Training	Media and Awareness of the Public opinion
Education and language	Gender equality	Religion
Health	Racism and Discrimination	International relations
Solidarity and Social Response	Citizenship and Civic Participation	

Fig. 6. Distribution of thematic areas in the axes of PMML 2018-2020

Source: PMML 2018-2020, CML, 2018.

In a broad sense, the measures included in the 2018-2020 PMIML could be transcribe into the following actions:

- Development of information actions such as manual, leaflets, audiovisual resources, and clarification and debate sessions, aimed at migrants to supporting their reception and integration processes.
- Promotion of awareness-raising activities on issues such as education for human rights, non-discrimination, interculturalism and gender equality, directed at target groups.
- Development of campaigns and events on issues related to migration, combating racism and racial and ethnic discrimination and promoting intercultural and inter-religious dialogue.
- Development of training actions aimed at empowering migrant associations, providing health professionals and teachers with tools to facilitate the integration of migrants in the healthcare system and schools, and training CML workers dealing with migrant communities on issues of racism and gender equality.
- Promotion of initiatives that directly support the integration of migrant communities such as language learning, access to housing and employment and entrepreneurship.
- Supporting and disseminating the activities of migrant and anti-racist associations.

- Promotion of intercultural mediation to facilitate social integration of migrant communities and ethnic minorities by supporting the training of intercultural mediators.

For each one of the axes the plan establishes strategies and breakdown of its operationalization including the specific objectives, the related actions, goals, indicators and responsible. Responsibility is put in the diverse public institutions working on immigration and social integration and in some actions, especially within the Axis I, it is shared with associations of the civil society. Annual evaluations are done, through an intersectoral assessments and the verification of the completed actions and goals performance.

3.3.3 Actors and Networks

The Portuguese State comes as the main responsible of the migration and integration strategy, and the different bodies and entities within it dedicated to these purposes have been crucial. On border control and regularization processes Portugal holds the Foreigners and Borders Service SEF, its functions have been subject to constant change based on the national and international migratory context.

On the immigrant social integration side, the most important of the state organizations is the High Commissariat for Migration ACM. It was founded in 1996 as the Commissariat for Immigration and Ethnic Minorities ACIME, and later transformed into the High Commissariat for Immigration and Intercultural Dialogue ACIDI (Costa, 2016). Its last reform was in 2014 when it was transformed into ACM, being presented as a public institute that intervenes in the implementation of public policies on migration and works with an extend intersectoral network to achieve its goals.

As part of the structures that work in line with ACM, there are three special bodies: the Immigration Observatory, the Commission for Equality and Against Racial Discrimination, and the Council for Migration. Furthermore, ACM also establishes different Working Groups with other state organizations and NGOs. The Immigration Observatory is dedicated to research on immigration and ethnic minority issues to sustain informed integration policies at the national level and it works in partnership with Universities, Research Centers, and Businesses.

The Commission for Equality and Against Racial Discrimination CICDR was especially created to accompany the application of the Law that bans discrimination based on race, nationality, or ethnicity and it is defined as a plural organism with representatives of the state and civil society (Teixeira and Albuquerque, 2005).

Lastly, the Council for Migration CM, which was first created in 1998 as The Consultation Council for Immigration Issues COCAI, is defined as the “organ of consultation, support and participation in the definition of the general lines of action of ACM, and in the decision-making of the Directive Council, ensuring the participation and collaboration of public and private entities in the definition and execution of migration policies” (ACM, 2021). The CM includes representatives of: The High Commissariat; the diverse state-based institutions with action in the territory in all its sectors; representatives of immigrants communities; and institutions with action or interest in the area of migration.

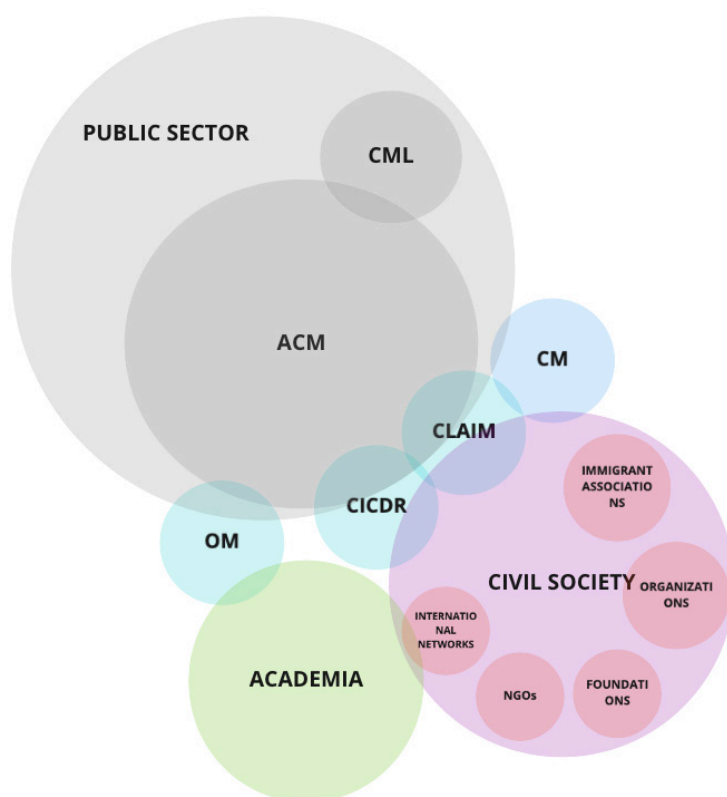


Fig. 7. Key actors in the immigrants' social integration framework; Lisbon-Portugal
Source: Author

The second main group of actors in the migration and integration structure is the civil society, represented mainly by the numerous immigrant associations as well as organizations working in the defense of human rights, anti-racism causes, and gender equality among others. The main immigrant associations and organizations considered by ACM as strategic in the participation of the local policies and its implementation are: the Associação Lusofonia, Cultura e Cidadania (ALCC), Casa do Brasil de Lisboa, Girassol Solidário, Fundação Cidade de Lisboa (FCL), Associação Renovar a Mouraria (ARM), Centro Padre Alves Correia (CEPAC), JRS - Portugal, Associação Cultural e Juvenil Batoto Yetu, Solidariedade Imigrante (SOLIM) and Culturface (CML, 2018).

3.3.4 Position of civil society in the public policies framework and local structures

As noted by various scholars and as mentioned before, in the civil society sphere, the main actors in Portugal regarding immigrant civic participation are immigrant associations.

Studies like the ones conducted by Sardinha (2009) and Padilla and França (2016) showed how, in Portugal, immigrant issues had very little political attention before the early 1990s. Integration policies started then with civil society, represented in the Cape Verdean Association, Guinean Association of Social Solidarity, Casa do Brasil de Lisboa, SOS-Racism and the International Organization for Migration, working together to pressure the Portuguese State to comply with European Union directives. With the turn of the century, the articulation between the state and civil society over migrant issues was intensified, having the political authorities giving immigrant associations the spaces for participation in decisions and actions concerning their communities. For the time being, ACIME in its work with the at the moment COCAI, recognized immigrants' associations as representatives of immigrants' groups entitled to participate in: the definition of the immigration policy, the regulatory processes concerning migration, the consultative councils and organizations, and to have access to broadcasting time in the public television and radio, among others (Teixeira and Albuquerque, 2005).

Immigrant associations are still call to participate in the development process for the Municipal Integration Plan and to integrate the Council for Migration and the Commission for Equality and Against Racial Discrimination, neverthe-

less in their daily work highlights their position as operators of the National Network of Local Immigrants Centers CLAIMs, being in constant and direct contact with the immigrant population itself. CLAIMs network was introduced in 2003 in alliance with local councils, migrant associations, civil society and local development organizations to promote proximity integration policies in the local level and to give local articulated responses to immigrants' needs in terms of reception and integration (Padilla and França, 2016). As registered by the CML, in Lisbon there are currently 10 CLAIMs offices supported by CML and operated by associations and organizations:

- Lusophony, Culture and Citizenship Association - Local Support Office for the Immigrant Community
- Casa do Brasil de Lisboa- Guidance and Referral Office
- Girassol Solidário - “Nós Acolhe” Office
- Fundação Cidade Lisboa - Support, Information and Guidance Office
- Associação Renovar a Mouraria - Citizenship Office
- Centro Padre Alves Correia - Social Support Office (focused on employability issues)
- JRS-Portugal - Local Center for the Support and Integration of Migrants Santa Clara
- Solidariedade Imigrante - Meeting Point Office
- Batoto Yetu Cultural and Youth Association - Immigrant Support Office
- CML - Campo Grande Office

4. Findings: Casa do Brasil de Lisboa and civil society for immigrants' social integration in LMA

4.1 Immigrant civil society in LMA

4.1.1 Development and growth

As reviewed by Teixeira and Albuquerque (2005), since the 1950s when the first immigrant association was established there has been a stable increase in their numbers, being a crucial event the implementation of the law which approved the legal regime regulating immigrant associations in 1999. Before it, associations were formed as non-profit cultural associations or as private institutions. The legal regime gave them higher visibility as political actors and legitimated them in the public sphere, becoming important partners in the shaping of immigration public policies.

Although in their study, the authors show how immigrant associations in Portugal have undergone a process of development, influenced by the institutional framework and the socio-political situation of their communities, in which three moments can be identified. The period between 1970s and late-1980s, where few associations were created to undertake activities for emergency social intervention. The first half of the 1990s, where there was a boom of associations that had as main goal the promotion of social, economic and political integration of their communities through political lobbying to increase citizenship rights by

confronting the state and claiming the regularization of illegal immigrants. The third period described in this study starts in the second half of the 1990s, when associations reached a stage of maturity and professionalism and were recognized as social and political actors and partners by the state institutions. At this stage, associations are developing more complex projects, employing highly qualified human resources, improving their strategies and enlarging their scope of intervention.

An especial recognition must be done to the first immigrant associations, which were the ones of the PSAC communities, for they made the strongest efforts in pressuring and building dialogue with the state institutions, opening the way for all the future associations towards their recognition as legitimate actors in the migration and social integration structures (Sardinha, 2009).

4.1.2 Types and classification

The composition of the immigrant civil society sphere includes diverse actors working in the local and international grounds and account for diverse forms of collectivity such as organizations, associations, foundations and collectives. They vary in their type of constitution and work and field of action around immigration issues. Nevertheless, the main actor, as mentioned before, are the immigrant associations and organizations.

According to Sardinha (2009) immigrant associations and organizations in the Portuguese context include a broad pool of typologies, including semi-professionalized service agencies, community or neighborhood associations, self-help social associations, cultural or professional groups, and transnational organizations. The author also points their diversity in terms of the range and scope of their activities and target groups, and their experience in time; being some extremely broad and others specific with their initiatives, some having worked for decades and being well established and visible and others starting their activities and working on their organizational structure.

In the view shared by Teixeira and Albuquerque (2005) associations and organizations in the Portuguese context could be better categorized by the criteria of who runs them: Immigrant descendants' associations, Immigrants' associations of Portuguese-Speaking African countries, Eastern Europe immigrants' associations, Brazilian immigrants' associations and so on.

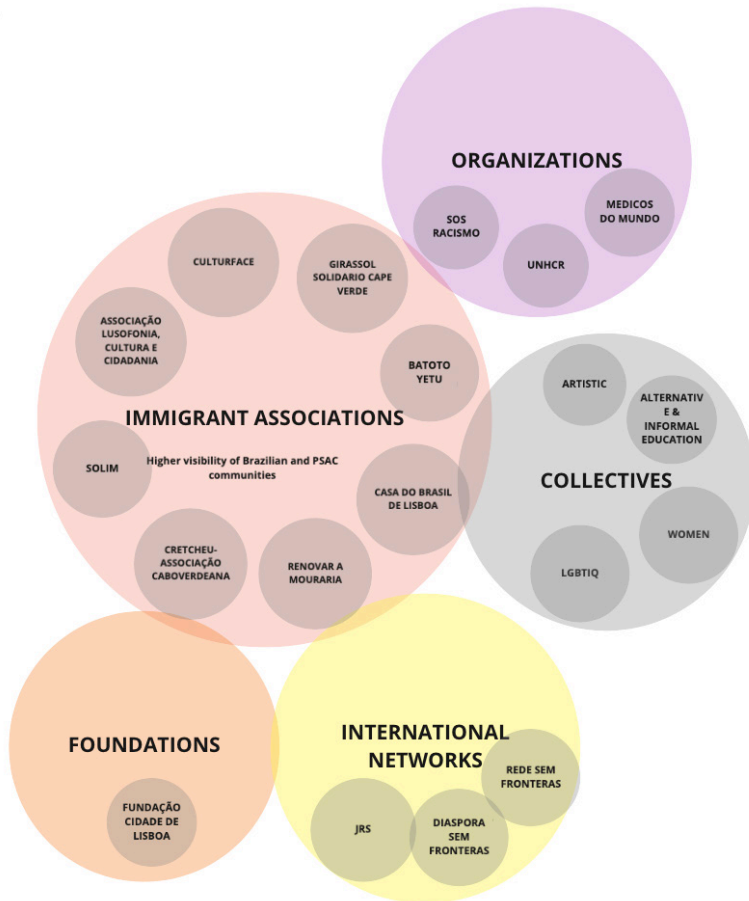


Fig. 8. Map of components of the immigrant civil society in LMA.
Source: Author

The actors featured are some of the ones involved in the network of operationalization of the public policies for integration of immigrant population.

4.1.3 Traits of immigrant associations in Lisbon and their networks

The CML in its report for the Municipal Plan for Immigrant Integration (CML, 2018), informs on the results of surveys applied to 18 immigrant associations in the city and interviews conducted with representatives from 6 of them. From the results a general characterization was draw as follows:

- have a small number of working people and a significant collaboration of volunteer people.
- have diverse sources of financial resources, especially their own sources and donations.
- intervene in areas which are not restricted to the city of Lisbon.
- have member whose most representative nationalities are those of the largest immigrant communities in Portugal (Brazil and PSAC);
- support their member mainly on legal processes, educational action, socio-economic support and the promotion of cultural events.
- highlighted as main difficulties of the immigrant population the access to employment and difficulties in regularization.
- perceived partnerships as relevant to their work.
- expressed as experienced difficulties the lack of financial support and qualified employees, problems in logistics and their physical spaces, difficulties in publicizing their activities and work, shortage of volunteers and the lack of legal support.
- believe that the integration of migrants will be more achievable with a greater access to social rights, especially access to housing, political participation, labor market, and the learning the Portuguese language.
- with a less professional profile have less capacity for attracting support and, in turn, weaker response in their support services for immigrants.

Moreover, as noted by Sardinha (2009), even though the characterization of the associations of different immigrants' groups can show differentiated patterns and traits, it is also relevant to point out on the needs they have in common, such as combating the discrimination from the host society and the lack of legal rights that comes from being undocumented, especially in regards to labor market exploitation.

4.1.4 Their main roles and participation

The main role of immigrant associations in Lisbon, in the larger picture, is as mediators between the immigrant communities and the state institutions regarding issues of their interest, mainly related to their integration processes. Nevertheless, there are other main roles that these associations play for their communities related to them being promoters of the social integration of their communities, such as safe environments providers for immigrants in their settlement in the host country, support providers in different areas, social services providers, advocates for immigrants' rights, and cultural transmitters.

The role of legal support providers, services providers and cultural transmitters are highly observed. The legal support and services providers role respond to the major need of guidance and support in regularization processes and further access to welfare services, employment and education that can entail so many difficulties for individuals and families. As well, responds to a defined approach on immigrants' rights defense.

On the other hand, the role they play as cultural enclaves, spaces, platforms and transmitters, respond to the importance of the immigrant's groups culture in what Sardinha (2009) defines a dual sense: as a way of preserving and celebrating their cultural identity and passing it on to next generations; and as a way of transmitting their culture to the Portuguese society and, therefore, contributing to the building of a multicultural society.

Nonetheless, there are factors such as specificities of an immigrant group or class divisions, that lead to target specific sectors and needs from one way or another, and might influence the role the associations play for their communities. As noted by Sardinha (2009), this is the case of the Brazilian community in Portugal, for it presents a strong differentiation between a first and second immigration phases, being the first one a group that was primarily composed

by qualified people who arrived in the country through legal ways, while the second and more recent group is composed mostly by young, unqualified and undocumented people. The associations established have echoed these differentiations and the professional and cultural associations in the early 1990s, turned to interventionist and solidarity organizations with the arrival of the second wave since the late 1990s (Sardinha, 2009).

4.2 The immigrant association Casa do Brasil de Lisboa

The biggest and more visible associations correspond to the major immigrant communities in the city. This is the case of the Brazilian association Casa do Brasil de Lisboa CBL, which is taken as case study within this research.

4.2.1 General characterization

The association Casa do Brasil de Lisboa is a non-profit immigrant association founded in January 1992 by Brazilians based in Lisbon and Portuguese friends of Brazil. It describes itself as “actively working on the reflection and implementation of public policies, assuming a fundamental role of activism and claiming egalitarian policies for immigrant communities in Portugal” (CBL, 2021). Activities and projects of the association seek to promote equal access to rights and services for immigrant people, as well as to put in value immigration and integration through culture. The main population served by the association is the Brazilian community in Lisbon, nonetheless, it is open to all nationalities.

As described by Carlos Vianna, co-founder, the association was born in a very spontaneous way and having a strong political character, even though the association has never been part of a specific political party. He explains this as derived from the fact that good part of the co-founders were part of political parties and even formed the Brazilian laborers party nuclei in Lisbon. The other members of this first moment of the association were de-politized and what he describes as “typical” immigrants. Both groups saw the need to come together in the form of an association.

The association runs mainly on a voluntary basis, having as major funding source co-financed projects, and as alternative sources monthly fees paid by the partners and donations. The working team is divided into three classifications, corresponding to the structure of the association: the direction, functionaries and volunteers. The direction is the decision-maker in regards to the associa-

tion's functions and it works on a voluntary basis; the functionaries are the ones conforming the main working team, they are the employees behind the development of projects' activities and the provision of the continuous services that the association offers; finally, the volunteers come into the picture as complementary to the staff of functionaries in their tasks, as well as supporting the association through their professional skills in areas of interest for the services offer to immigrants, therefore there are volunteers with professional knowledge in the healthcare system, or lawyers and psychologists.

The association describes its work as based in three lines of action: integration, activism and culture. Under the integration line, the association groups the core of its work, including all the projects it develops and the services provision in legal support, orientation in access to services and information on access to the labor market. As for the activism line, the association reaffirms its political and activist character and its stand in the fight for the defense of immigrants' rights. Finally, under the culture line the association offers a documentation center and a cultural space for various artistic areas where intercultural gatherings through artistic events take place, as well, it fosters the expression of the Brazilian culture in Portugal.

4.2.2 Approaches to social integration and civil society role

As reported by Ana Paula Costa from the association's staff, the association understands social integration from a rights-based approach and as an exercise of citizenship. Moreover, she explains how the association works in fostering the social integration of immigrants in two fronts: Reception and welcoming, and the guaranteeing of migrants' rights. For the first one, it provides information and supports immigrants in their first moments in the country, in relation to how to access to the services in the city, how the systems and structures in the host country work, providing information on the labor market and housing, and providing a safe space for sharing of experiences and accessing a Brazilian network in the city. The second front, its linked to the support with legal procedures regarding their legal status in the country and related issues, and the activist and political role of the association.

Having a rights-based approach, it is of great importance the take on activism as the association defines its work as a constant fight for the immigrants' rights and how to guarantee them. Therefore, they also manifest and mobilize in pro of

the human and political rights of migrants and work on anti-discrimination and anti-racism campaigns and actions. Examples of this are the diverse manifestos and agendas produced along the years of work of the association on critical and sensitive topics around immigrant community in the political arena as results of reflection processes and send to the state institutions and international community. As well, the mobilizations done in form of protest stand as examples of the above; currently a mobilization led by the association in partnership with two collectives of the Brazilian community in the city, is done as a campaign to denounce and protest against the current Brazilian government and its management of the Covid-19 pandemic among other issues. This campaign has taken the mobilization into the public space, more specifically the Largo de Camões square, where the Consulate-General of Brazil in Lisbon is located.



Fig. 9. Demonstration against Bolsonaro's government. July 2021.
Source: CBL social media

Essential to the association's nature is the concept of participation, for it acknowledges participation and constant direct contact as the only way to get to know and understand the diversity of immigrants' realities so that they can become visible and translated into better ways of dealing with issues around immigration at different levels. Thus, participation in the diverse projects and activities of immigrants of the Brazilian community, of other immigrant groups and even of other associations and individuals of the Portuguese society is considered as fundamental. Openness to all ethnic groups and nationalities and the coming together in a base of respect for all cultural backgrounds is also at the core of this participatory view. Naturally, the vast majority of people having direct contact with the association are part of the Brazilian immigrant community as a result of a representation and identification matter, nevertheless public from other nationalities is also received mainly communities from African countries such as Angola, Cape Verde and South Africa. Participation of members of the host society is also desired and fostered by inviting Portuguese nationals into the speaker panels in the discussions, seminars, and debates sessions done,

as well as having Portuguese nationals as part of the working team. Even though Portuguese nationals are also participating, it is not in high numbers and they all share a vision of support to immigration and/or work already in the defense of immigrants' rights, therefore a dialogue with opposite or diverse opinions and with the common Portuguese nationals, is not taking place.

On regards to the role they play, the association sees itself as the voice of their community, their problems and needs, towards the public institutions and decision makers. The Association perceives the situation as one in which a huge distance is placed between immigrants and decision-makers in the matter of policy-making. Therefore, it tries to create opportunities for this dialogue and puts itself as a channel for it, where people are eager to come and express all the difficulties they go through and that they cannot directly pose to the higher levels of the public sector. As Cytia de Paula, president of the association, points out, their role of being in between becomes necessary since there is a recognizable gap between policies, what is written, and the reality of immigrants, the daily life and experiences. She highlights the need to speak up and let the decision-makers know that a good policy is not enough, for in practice there is more needed for it to really work. This is related to the aim that the association has of being able to nurture and influence migration policy-making processes, from the base of recognizing the positive aspects of the Portuguese migration policies, which are also considered as good by them, and reflecting upon the aspects that need to be improved and how to do it considering immigrants voices and experiences.

The above mentioned, corresponds as well with the vision of future that the association's work team members have, in which the following five points come into play being the desire of becoming even more political is shared:

- Stronger political role: occupying more and more diverse political spaces, staying active in the political debate and being more representative, including a wider range of people, ideas and points of view.
- Growth: growing in capacity, partnerships and qualification, in order to expand the services offered and the population that can be reached.
- Replication role: create a replication strategy in which the association could

be able to pass its knowledge, gained through decades of experience, and become a platform or a laboratory to support other groups, collectives and initiatives.

- Contribution to the city: a closer dialogue and interaction with the city itself, especially at neighborhood level, which is a relationship that doesn't exist currently.
- Sustainability: becoming economically sustainable so that the continuity of projects and service provision can be guaranteed.

From this five, the sustainability point must be highlighted as the association identifies as its main obstacle the finance sustainability. Highly depending on state funding, the continuity of activities and work is placed at risk with every cycle of funded projects. Furthermore, they recognized it as an obstacle not just for them but for the civil society in general working for immigration population in Lisbon, based on the shared experiences with other associations and organizations. In the president of the association's view, the struggling with funding and depending of state financed projects also puts associations and organizations in a place of competition, in which a higher risk goes to the small ones, while the big and even international ones with the capacity and qualification to go through the diverse calls are more prone to get funded. This in turn reflects on a second obstacle identified by the association as a lack of collective involvement within the civil society. As expressed by the association's president, each organization and association trying to survive by itself and its community in the competition for funding, has produced a dispersion of them and a weakened collective fight.

4.2.3 Network and actors

As seen in the previous section, the association recognizes a lack of joint and collective work within the civil society, the president of the association herself denounces the lack of a platform that gathers the migrant civil society in Lisbon and a collective sense as a whole. Nonetheless, there is a network within this civil society at the local, national and international level, of which the Casa do Brasil de Lisboa is a part of. Dialogue, sharing of experiences and sporadic and temporary partnerships in joint initiatives and projects are held within this network.

Such a network includes other immigrant associations and organizations in Lisbon, especially the ones corresponding to other major immigrant groups in Portugal like the PSAC communities, and in other cities mainly in Europe and Latin America, and of course, diverse actors in Brazil. It includes as well citizens collectives and organizations and foundations in Europe working in pro of immigrants' social integration and rights defense functioning in diverse areas, such as education or healthcare, and that are run by diverse actors, including churches and human rights defense NGOs, some being even active in an international scale.

In the one hand, the association foster the dialogue among the actors in this network and outside it through debates and discussion sessions within the framework of the projects it develops. In the other hand, sporadic and temporary joint actions are also done in the frame of some projects developed by the association. An example for this is the Sinergia project, funded by the state, in which a partnership with two local organizations was established in order to jointly learn from each other's participatory processes in their work on immigrant social integration. In this case, the partnership was done with the immigrant association Renovar a Mouraria working in the cultural ground at a neighborhood level, and the foundation Cidade de Lisboa working in social cohesion and multicultural social integration at the city level. As well, self-managed, self-financed joint initiatives have been developed; which is the case of the I European Social Forum on Migration, that took place the past month of March as a virtual event, of which the association was part of the local organizing committee along with the association Diáspora sem Fronteiras and the organization Rede sem Fronteiras Europa and a wider international committee composed by international organizations.

The mentioned debates and discussion sessions, which are done on a frequent basis and open to all public, bring in as speakers not just the civil society, but representatives from academia, public institutions, services providers institutions, and political parties. Being this, again, a way to promote the dialogue among diverse sectors and actors, create proximity between them and immigrant population, and built relationships among them.

The association has also cultivated its relationship with academia along the years, keeping the dialogue with academia members in their activities fostering

intersectoral dialogue and receiving and cooperating with researchers. As well, academic seminars have been organized and led, from which Agendas in the form of documents gathering initiatives and suggestions are generated and later shared with other sectors.

The public sector actors come into the association's network, of course, as of high relevance, for ties with the Portuguese and Brazilian States have been always present in the history of the association. In the case of the Portuguese State, it is the sector providing funding for the totality of projects that the association currently develops. Moreover, the association is part of the structures where the spaces for dialogue with the public sector are offered, always as representatives of the Brazilian immigrant community, such as the Commission for Equality and Against Racial Discrimination, the Council for Migration and the Council of Brazilian Representatives Abroad CBRE. A deeper look into these relationships is exposed in the next section.

4.2.4 Relationships with the public sector

In the case of the Portuguese context, the association reaffirms its relationship with the public sector as a funding source and, in terms of their role as mediators, from a dialogue perspective for they are a Portuguese association; as Carlos Vianna, one of the co-founders puts it, they are in Portugal, they work in Portugal and they are an active part of the Portuguese society. The association makes clear that there is not a cooperation or collaboration relationship as both do not stand in the same level, as equals, and recognizes a past where such a relationship existed. During the 1990s and early 2000s when the first policies and plans for integration were being created, the CBL along with other immigrant associations had a strong role in such a process, working in close partnership with the state to generate those policies from scratch.

As informed by Carlos Vianna, in the 1990s the association was deeply engaged in uniting with other associations, mainly the PSAC ones, in the dialogue with the Portuguese State for advancing in legislation in the immigration affairs, mainly on the legalization of immigrants, through two laws: the law of foreigners and the nationality law. He highlights the success of the immigrant associations back then to influence in the general structure of the Portuguese state, the Portuguese Organic Law and the development of the first public policies regarding immigrants' integration. Their main point in such an effort was to pose

the immigrants issue as a public agency issue rather than police related issue, reassuring on the need of public institutions to deal with immigrants and their needs aside from the Border Control police body. The creation of ACM, born as ACIME, and the further public institutions dealing with immigrants and immigration issues also responded to this.

Nonetheless, the association identifies and has experienced the deterioration of these relationships with the public sector in Portugal, leaving immigrant associations in a less visible and active position in the matters of the policy-making processes. This has created what Vianna describes as a feeling of disappointment and a perception of the dialogue with the public sector as little or none.

Even though the association is still present in the Commission for Equality and Against Racial Discrimination and the Council for Migration, the current experiences of the work that they can achieve through them as representatives of the Brazilian immigrant community are not as positive and rewarding as they were in the past. The president of the association, who is also the Council's representative for the Brazilian immigrant community, shared her perception of a Council with very low representation of the diverse immigrant groups within it, being the vast majority of the members representative of the state and its institutions, where dialogue and debate are monopolized. She perceived as well, the Council as a space where a lot of biases are present and that is existing as a revindication of the whole system around how the government addresses migration and with little space to contest or being critical on its flaws and needed improvements. This corresponds as well with the perception of Carlos Vianna, former member of the Council for the Brazilian community, as he compares the power that this organ used to have and the one it has now. He sees how the relationship with the SEF has worsen, and perceives a weakened Council that seems to be there just to comply with the looks or the forms that should be kept in the government structures.

Positive aspects are also recognized by the current representative; there is a perceived openness to listen to immigrants' representatives and their ideas in the Council, but it fails to transfer them into the decision-making processes. Nevertheless, there is still value in being part of the Council, from the association perspective, as it is a space and opportunity to bring the voice of the community. As well, the current task assigned to the Council is perceived as positive

and walking towards a collective building process; the Council has started to concentrate in building a strategy for the Census of immigrant population with a right to vote.

A similar perception was shared about the participation in the development of the Municipal Plan for Immigrant Integration in Lisbon, the 2018-2020 PMIML, in which the president of the association participated as only representative of the immigrant associations; which, in her view, showed the lack of representation in these processes. Nonetheless, the association highly values the processes and work done with the local government; being part of the CLAIM network, in partnership with the Câmara Municipal de Lisboa, through its Orientation and Referring Office (GOE) is a part of this.

The association also has created bonds with the Brazilian public sector, a partnership that grew to be needed as the emigration in Brazil raised over the years. According to Carlos Vianna, the CBL grew to be one of the more organized and politized organization of Brazilians outside Brazil, working to get the Brazilian State more involved in the emigration issue and its nationals abroad. As examples for this he presents the supportive role the association played in the development of the well-known Lula Agreement (between the Portugal and Brazilian States), the conception of the Seminars for the encounter of Brazilians around the world and the creation of the CBRE.

4.3 Tools and strategies for the social integration of immigrant population

4.3.1 Macro-level: overarching pillars

According to Cyntia de Paula, president of the association, their work centers in two main grounds, the political and the assistance ground, and in order to keep them running, a general strategy is maintained based in three overarching pillars:

1. Being politically active
2. Working closely with the structures of the local government
3. Having a continuous training

Being politically active is kept always at the center, for it goes in hand with

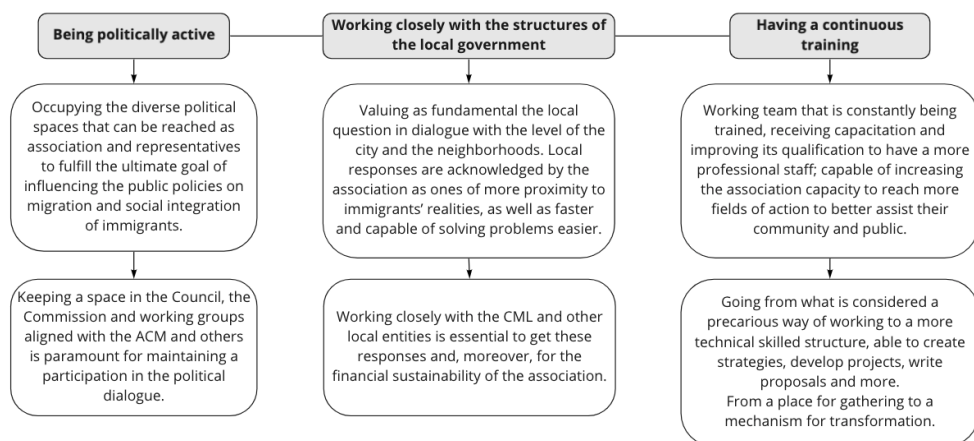


Fig. 10. CBL Macro-level: overarching pillars
Source: Author

keeping strong political stands and their activist character. What each of them entail can be seen in the following graphic:

4.3.2 Meso-level: map of projects and service offer

As mentioned before, Casa do Brasil de Lisboa describes its work as based in three lines of action: integration, activism and culture. Nonetheless, as the focus for the study is in the social integration of immigrants, the pool of projects, services and activities developed currently and in the recent years, as presented in their web portals and documents, has been reviewed in relation to the understanding of the dimensions of social integration instead of in relation to the defined lines of action

The three dimensions of social integration considered are the ones presented previously as part of the interface, which can also be seen as matching the three axes of the 2018-2020 PMIML:

1. Socio-economic dimension - Axis I. Reception and rights: centered in the access to the provision of socio-economic services.
2. Legal-political dimension - Axis II. Integration and participation: guaranteeing human and political rights.
3. Cultural dimension - Axis III. Interculturality: centered in cultural dialogue and expression, cultural relationships, socio-cultural awareness.

FINDINGS

	Name	Funding	Description/Goal	Activities	Methodology	Participation	Outputs/Outcomes
SERVICES - CONTINUOUS	Orientation and Referring Office (GOE)	FAMI - ACM	GOE is part of the CLAIM (Local Support Center for the Integration of Migrants) network, partnered with the Lisbon City Council under the PMIML - Lisbon Municipal Plan for Migrants 2018-2020, and offers guidance regarding the regularization and legalization in Portugal, as well as access to public and private services, such as: health, education, justice, social security, among others. The office also reports on labor rights and other issues related to the integration of Brazilian immigrants and other nationalities in Portugal.	Personal assistance to individuals. Also used as a tool for data collection and characterization of the immigrant population in Lisbon.	Open office for service provision through individual assistance and support. Service given by volunteering professionals.	Open to every migrant. Mainly Brazilians taking this service and participating from the pools and surveys.	Individuals and families assisted in processes or regularization and access to services.
	Professional Information Office (GIP)	Through projects	The Professional Information Office (GIP) of the Casa do Brasil in Lisbon provides support to unemployed youth and adults in their career of insertion or professional and / or training reintegration.	Development of job search curricula and techniques Dissemination and referral for job offers and qualification Guidance for measures to support entrepreneurship The office also establishes partnerships with companies and training providers that use its free recruitment support services for job offers and training	Open office for service provision through individual assistance and support. Service given by volunteering professionals.	Open to every migrant. Mainly Brazilians taking this service and participating from the pools and surveys. Linkage to private sector	Individuals and families assisted in processes for job market integration. Platform for Enterprises, companies and providers to make they offers visible to job seekers.
	Cycle of Information Sessions	Through projects	With specific themes, the Information Sessions Cycle complements the work carried out by the Mutual Aid Group, as it is a more specific information space regarding rights and duties.	They are informative sessions with themes such as: Regularization in Portugal, Rights and Duties of Immigrants, Portuguese Nationality, Access to Health, Rights and Duties of the Worker and Migrations in the Feminine.	Topics chosen in relation to the current funding project, and main interests discovered in the GOE - GIP and Grupo Acolhida. Sessions done by experts in the areas of topic.	Participation is free and dissemination occurs through CBL's dissemination channels on social networks.	Seminars on specific information Debates around interest topics Group building and assistance
	Grupo Acolhida	Through projects	Mutual Aid Group. Group/community building Support network building	Grupo Acolhida has the concept of group work, a space for conversations, sharing information and experiences, since the shared experience reduces isolation, provides reflections and increases the chances of overcoming difficulties through the solidarity network that is formed	weekly meetings of the Mutual Aid Group. Free-open discussion/conversation casual meeting, sharing - no formalities	Participation is free and open to all migrants Mainly Brazilian community	Experienced shared Networks connections Socio-emotional support
	Bar da Casa	Self financed	It is a space for meeting cultures that aims to support artists to show their work to different audiences, promoting knowledge and interaction in an alternative circuit. Its main objective is the integration by culture and knowledge in a participative and transforming perspective.	Bar da Casa is the cultural space where the association develops and hosts activities from various artistic areas, such as musical concerts, theater, exhibitions, gastronomy, cinema cycles, workshops, exhibitions, debates and lectures.	Connected to and to immigrants and Brazilian affairs, its mission actively intervenes not only for the dissemination of Brazilian culture, namely the new Brazilian artists / little known in Portugal, but also for the creation of a space for political action, reflection and debate of ideas. Planned by events days	Participation is open to all migrants Mainly Brazilian community	Dissemination of Brazilian culture Artists supported Funds Collected Experienced shared Networks connections Socio-cultural support
	CEDOC- Documentaiontal Center	Self financed	Casa do Brasil in Lisbon has a space for research on topics related to Brazil, the relations between Brazil and Portugal, Portuguese speaking in general and the issues of and of immigrants in Portugal				Collection of relevant documentation that can be consulted in palce
PROJECTS - TEMPORARY	Migrante Participa fora de portas	Programa de Apoio ao Associativismo Imigrante (PAAI) associações	Objective: to promote participation of immigrants residing in Portugal	Seminars Informative paniflets and sheets	debate, diagnosis and proposal of solution of issues and topics of interest	Participation in the collective creation of the diagnosis and proposals process	Document of diagnosis and recommendations. Informative publications
	Infomra em Ação	FAMI - ACM	promote access to the NHS (HEALTHCARE SYSTEM) by migrants and to improve the conditions in which it takes place, as well as to increase the information and awareness of professionals about specificities in the care of migrants.	Informative session by professionals of the heat care system to immigrants	Facilitation of communication between professionals of the heat care system and immigrants. Participatory construction of the informative guidelines (the product).	In partnership with: GAT Treatment Activist Group, GABP Almirante Reis and USF da Baixa	Casa do Brasil in Lisbon, as a promoter of the Informa in Action Project, publishes the 3 information guides on access and health care for migrant people and health professionals. The guides are available in 6 languages: Bengali, French, English, Mandarin, Nepali, Portuguese. The Guide to Pregnancy and Postpartum in Portugal and the Guide on the Importance of Wellbeing in Health
	Sinergia- o que nos une	FAMI - ACM	Collaboration between 3 migrant associations/organizations in Lisbon to share experiences on participatory methods for integration.	Individual projects and collective meetings as exchange of experiences and collective evaluation and forward building.	Each association/organisation develops its methodologies and exchange and share them with the other. Collectively these are evaluated, exchanged, compared, and collectively a pool of strategies for participatory mehodts for integration can be done.	Focus is placed in the participatory methods being used in each association/organization s and how they can collectively learn from them.	Final concluding session Documentary
	I european social forum on migration	Self - financed/ self-managed	Discussions towards a collective agenda of alternative struggles in favor of migration with rights and against machismo, racism and all forms of discrimination and oppression	Self-managed online sessions and activities online convergence assemblies	Topics brought into discussion by the different participants (organizations, associations, social movements, academia, etc) Debate of the topics and convergence session for collective reflection and propoals	Participation of 300 social movements, organizations, migrants associations, unions, activists. Participation free and open for all the sessions and activities held space for individuals testimonies and participation	Document on dclaration of the assembly of social movements of the I European social forum on migration
	Migramyths	Portuguese Republic - ACM	The project aims to fight myths around immigrants and immigration, combating negative stereotypes, discrimination and xenophobia. It focuses in acting in the social media field as it is the scenario or propagation of fake news and reproduction of those myths and stereotypes	Debate sessions Graphic inromation pieces in social media	gathering of stories and experiences Survey Sharing facts to unveil myths and esteriotypes	Personal experiences of immigrants are collected and shared Participation in the open debate sessions	Diagnosis Report
	Migrante Participa em Sintra	EU social fund Portugal 2020 Lisboa 2020	aims to foster spaces for sharing experiences and knowledge on topics related to the migrant community, residing in the territories of Algueirão-Mem Martins and Queluz e Belas, with a special focus on gender issues its main objective is to promote social inclusion and fight poverty	Gatherings Information sessions	In order to promote social participation, employability and information about rights and duties, it is envisaged to stimulate gatherings and information sessions in different places in Sintra, the preparation of information leaflets and the holding of a final seminar	These actions will be carried out through participatory processes, involving the migrant community and institutions, in a collective construction of paths towards equality	Information pieces and sessions on legal processes and how to assure the rights of immigrants to access of the diverse services and structures
	Lisboa acolhe	camara municipal	Web portal gathering all the information needed for migrants reception and welcoming in one same place. Give a solution to the dispersion of information.	Web portal constantly updated carrying the information needed for the diverse areas of migrants reception and integration as well as the contact of all the organizations and associations of the civil society working in social integration of immigrants	The web portal was buildied in cooperation with immigrants themselves, in the diagnosis and recollection of debates and with the diverse organizations and associations.	Immigrant community directly participated in the preparatory phases and the building of the web portal and testimonies are fetured in the portal	web portal
	Migrar com direitos	Portuguese republic acm fami EU SGMAI	Project focused in the defese of iimmigrants rights	Information sessions on legal procedures and processes for immigrant population. Debate sessions on critical topic of interest within the immigrant community, inviting actord from diverse sectors	Topics that have been recurrent in the day to day work of the association are compiled and prioritized. The most relevant topics and more demanded are brought to debates and worked on information sessions open to the public.	The addressed topics are in a way given by the people reaching the associations services, sessions and debates are open for participation	Information pieces and sessions on legal processes and how to assure the rights of immigrants to access of the diverse services and structures

Fig. 11. CBL Table of Projects and services reviewed

Source: Author

A general characterization of the projects and initiatives considered for this report is shown in the table in Fig.11. A first feature to notice is the differentiation of services, which are provided continuously, and projects, which are temporary and therefore respond to a limited period of time. The other main differences between these two categories is seen in the funding source. All projects are financed by state-based institutions, except for the I European Social Forum on Migration initiative that was self-financed. While services are financed through the projects, except for the ones related to the cultural events and the Orientation and Referring Office which as part of the CLAIM network is financed by the CML and the FAMI.

When these elements are seen in terms of the dimension of social integration that they address, based on their description and goals, a general map of services and projects for social integration of immigrants can be recognized.

In this structure, shown in Fig.12, centering first in the continuous provided services and activities of representation, it is shown how they cover the three dimensions in a balanced way, being each of them supported by a similar number of elements (3 or 4). As well it shows a more integrated approach in addressing the first and second dimension, while the cultural dimension seems to be addressed as a separated axis. The main elements supporting the first and second dimensions are the ones providing a supportive service in processes to individuals and giving information mainly on access to services in the city, legal structures and rights. The activities of representation in political spaces adds to the support of the second dimension, while cultural events and activities for community building are the main ones accounting for the cultural dimension.

Now, looking to what the projects contribute to this structure, there are diverse features that were found. Aside from bringing in the financial support, they also contribute to each of the three dimensions adding different goals and components such as the debates, lectures, discussions, encounters with representatives of other sectors and temporal joint activities with other organizations. The goals of enhancing participation and creating networks enriches what accounts for the first dimension; for the second one, the goals of enhancing representation and creating a collective political stand in the civil society are added; and for the third one, the goals of raising awareness and collectively learning of ways to validate cultural diversity are brought in. As well, through projects a

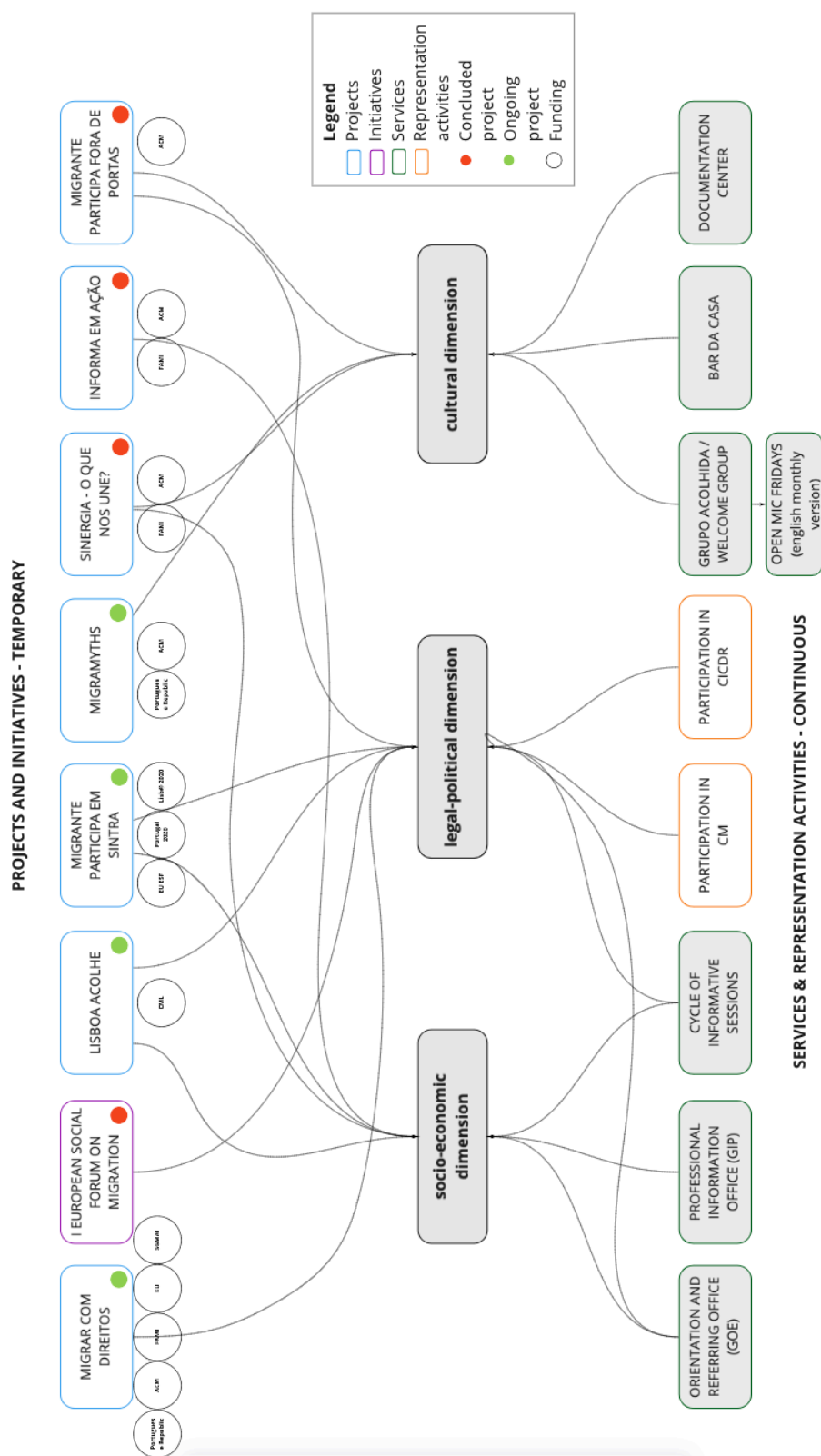


Fig. 12. CBL Projects and services reviewed by social integration dimension
Source: Author

more integrated way of addressing the third dimension is introduced, as some address it jointly with the first or second dimension.

4.3.3 Micro-level: into projects & services dynamics

In this section, results of a closer look to the ways in which the activities within the projects and the services provided work, are provided. For doing so, information was collected from the final reports' documents of projects, the association and specific projects websites and social media, the participation in and observation of debates, discussion sessions and accountability sessions, and interviews with a staff member and the president of the association.

First, as a general view on how projects are developed within the working system of the association, the following methodology is observed:

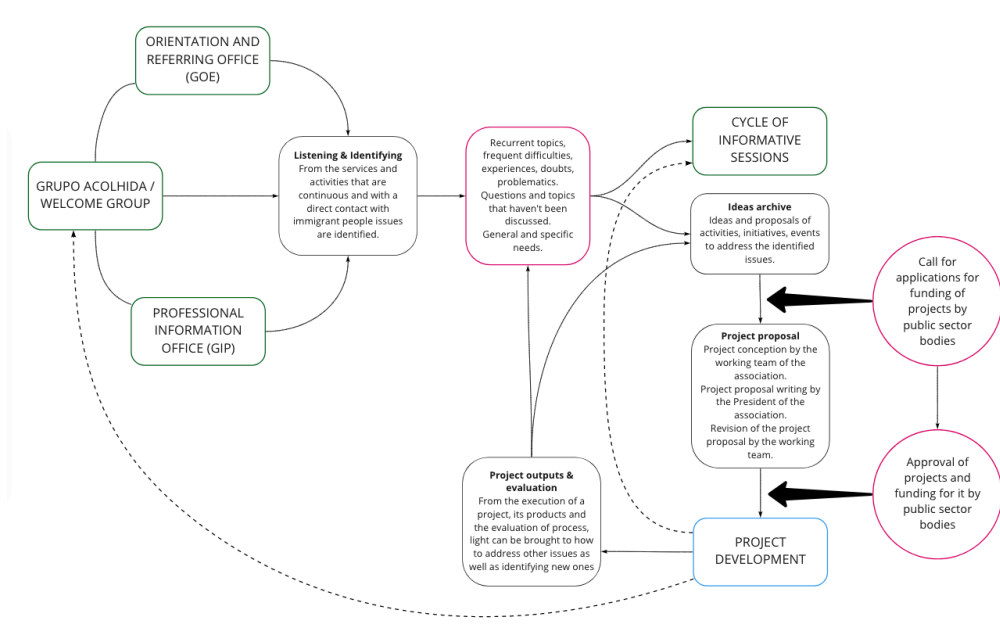


Fig. 13. CBL General cycle of projects development
Source: Author

As shown in the graphic, the continuous service provision offices and activities serve as well as input collectors where the direct contact with immigrants creates the spaces for listening to their experiences, troubles and needs. In this way the association gathers and recognizes the most recurrent needs, questions, obstacles, and interest topics within the immigrant population in all the dimensions of their everyday life experiences in the city and with the local and

national authorities, institutions and individuals. The identified, conform then a pool of topics and questions to be answered upon which the association reflects and try to generate ideas for projects, initiatives and actions that could be done to answer or work on them; for this study this have received the name of Ideas archive. As it results unlikely for the association being able to fund or find funding for an already structured project proposal, ideas for them stay in the archive until a call for project application is launched by the diverse state-based institutions. Currently, the totality of projects is being state financed.

Projects proposal are then conceived from the Ideas Archive and by the association's team in a collective manner. Once the proposal is approved and financing is secured, the project is developed contributing to the funding of the continuous activities such as the Grupo Acolhida and the cycle of informative sessions. From the projects' outputs, outcomes and evaluation, contributions to the identification of needs and ideas to work on them are also done. Common to all projects is this scheme as well as the accountability around it which is done in two ways: for the funding bodies through a physical and a financial report; and for the community through accountability open sessions in form of final seminars as well as through the open access to products in the form of reports, information guidelines, manuals and audiovisual productions.

In regards to the activities that are part of the strategies implement through the diverse projects and services offered, and the tools they make use of, the following are identified:

1. Discussion sessions: receiving the name of Tertulias, discussion sessions are part of every project the association runs currently and for quite some period already, becoming gradually a continuous activity of the association. Features of these sessions include:

- Focus is placed on contested topics of interest around the migration and the social integration issues.
- Invited speakers are diverse in their professional background as well as in the sector they represent and nationality. Sessions bring together members of organizations, associations, citizens collectives, political parties, public institutions, universities, research institutes, and practitioners on the field of interest of the session.
- Two members of the association's team are always present as moderators

and encouraging participation of the public.

- The structure followed is a first round of brief presentations or interventions on the topic of the session done by each of the invited speakers, followed by rounds of open questions and debate.
- Under the pandemic conditions, they are being held virtually, as meetings in the Zoom platform and transmitted live through the association's Facebook account where they rest as videos.
- The sessions are open to everyone and the public is encouraged to join the Zoom session to directly pose questions, participation through the Facebook chat on the live event is also encouraged.
- Previous to lockdown, at the end of the sessions a short dissertation among all participants was written and sent to diverse political parties.

2. Final seminars: the role of the final seminars is to be a conclusion or closure activity of a project, and an exercise of accountability, in which the community is informed on the execution of the project. They work in the following basis:

- They are open to the public and participation is encouraged.
- A first moment corresponds to a presentation by one or more members of the working team in which a description of the project is made, a review of the activities developed is done, results are reported, products and outputs of the project are shared and conclusions are presented.
- A second moment corresponds to open rounds of questions, comments and further discussion.
- Under the pandemic conditions, they are being held virtually, as meetings in the Zoom platform and transmitted live through the association's Facebook account where they rest as videos.



Fig. 14. Final seminar Sinergia project.
Online session-recorded.
Source: CBL



Fig. 15. Announcement for Discussion session with migrant activist women.
Source: CBL

3. Informative Sessions: the cycle of informative sessions is a continuous activity of the association that provides a collective assistance service. Features of the informative sessions are:

- They happen in a frequent basis, approximately every two weeks.
- They are open to all public.
- Focused is placed in frequent questions related to legal processes, regularization procedures, access to services such as education, healthcare system, social aids, rights and obligations as employees.
- They are given as know-how information.
- They are given by experts of professionals of the area of the session.

4. Developing diagnosis: for some projects, the first phase of their execution corresponds to a diagnosis of the current situation of immigrants in relation to the topic or area that the project address. For doing so the following tools are used:

- Surveys, which are conducted reaching through the diverse digital channels and platforms of the association. They target the immigrant population in the city, the metropolitan area or the national territory as needed.
- Testimonies collection, which are done through the diverse digital channels and platforms of the association, receiving the personal stories of immigrants that will to share their experiences in relation to the project's topic. It is associated or linked with the surveys.
- Interviews, which are done taking an aleatory sample out of the individuals receiving assistance by the association's services.

5. Awareness campaigns: these are done in the frame of some projects that try to fight discrimination issues against immigrants or inform immigrants on specific subjects. As features of them can be found:

- They target immigration population when trying to enhance awareness on the importance of exercising their rights and responsibilities, such as voting or active participation in various fields.
- They target mainly national population when addressing issues related to discrimination issues based on ethnic origin, nationality or gender, or negative stereotypes and misconceptions of immigration and immigrants.
- They go along with a seek to impact through social media, by the publication of information and data in a synthesized way and in form of graphic content.

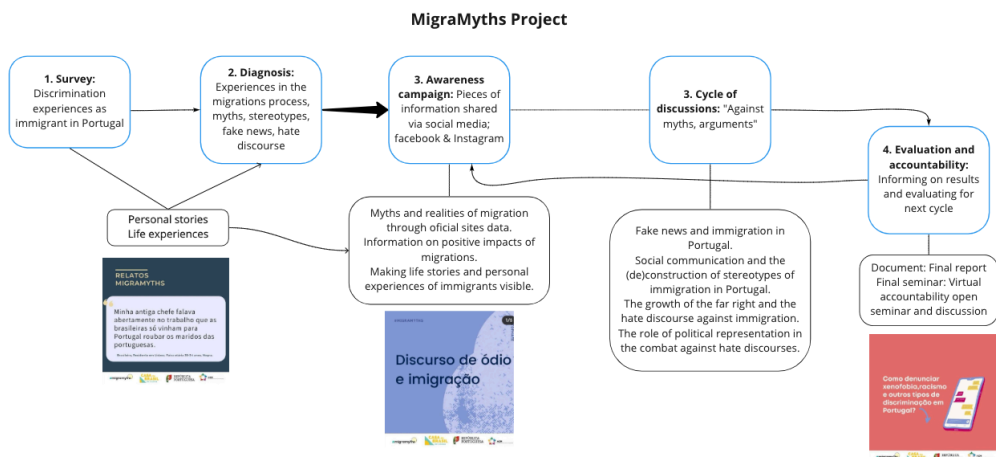


Fig. 16. MigraMyths project.
Source: Author

6. Collective building: this refers to the projects that entail a partnership with other organizations. In such projects a joint building and learning process is searched towards the specific area or topic that projects assess. Such joint processes can:

- Exchange knowledge and practices among the partner organizations to have a collective reflection through joint meetings and encounters for dialogue, which will leave as output a collective product in form of manual, dissertation, or other.
- Build a common strategy or structure for which focus groups are used to bring in the diverse actors contributing to the building process.

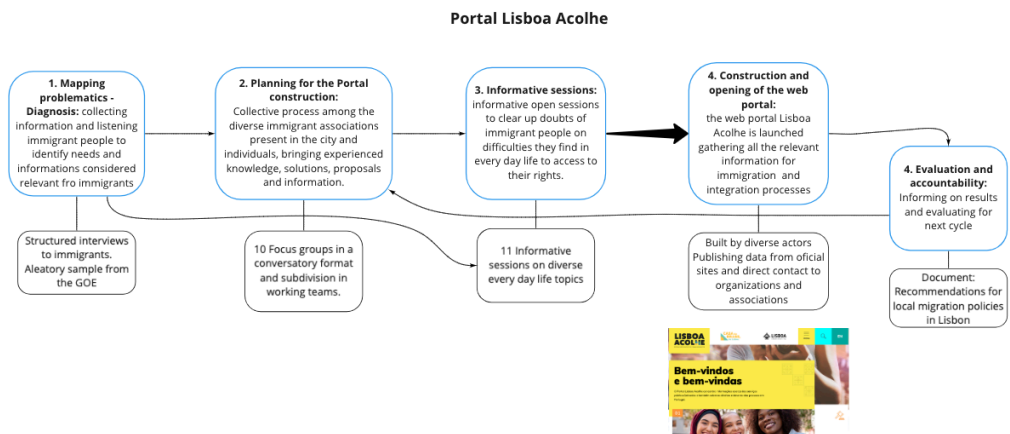


Fig. 17. Project Portal Lisboa Acolhe.
Source: Author

Project Sinergia em ação - O que nos une?

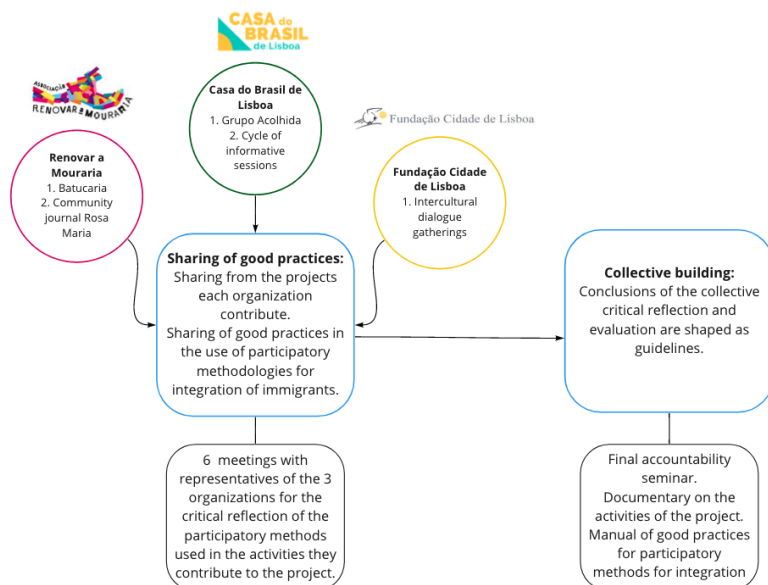


Fig. 18. Sinergia project.
Source: Author

7. Informal gatherings: aim to offer spaces for community building, network building and cultural expressions. These are:

- Open to all public.
- Happening on a frequent basis through the Grupo Acolhida (weekly) and Open Mic Fridays (monthly) activities.
- Free of specific topic, working as open conversations and social gatherings.
- Can also happen as cultural events around music and other artistic expressions through the activities in Bar da Casa (not possible times of Covid-19)



Fig. 19. Open invitations to the Welcoming Group and the informal conversation sessions. Musical event in Bar da Casa in 2018.
Source: CBL

8. One to one assistance: personalized assistance to individuals is done through the Orientation and Referring Office which:

- Is open to all the immigrant population and free of charge.
- Assistance is provided by the association's staff on the particular individual cases.
- Assistance is provided on regularization process, nationalization, and access to immigrants' rights and services.
- In the pandemic context, the assistance continued via telephone, mail and virtual meeting platforms.

9. Dissemination: information on events, initiatives and issues of interest for the immigrant population, Brazilian and general, are shared by the association through their diverse digital channels. The information disseminated are mainly about:

- Workshops, conferences or seminars around immigration and social integration issues.
- Immigrants collectives, organizations, initiatives or actions in Lisbon and Portugal.
- Cultural events related to the immigrant community.
- Important information, data or facts on the current affairs of Portugal and Brazil.

5. Discussion

This chapter reflects on the research's findings in relation to the concepts and ideas exposed in the theoretical framework. The discussion is divided into four parts touching each on issues related to social integration and perception of immigration, public policies for social integration of immigrants, the role of civil society for immigrant social integration, and the strategies and actions by the analyzed association that seek to impact social integration of immigrants.

5.1 Takes on social integration and perception of immigration in Portugal

In the perspective of the policy framework in the Portuguese context, the recognition of social integration as a process is showed. Such process is taken for its implementation and evaluation as composed by three interrelated axes that can be clearly understood as addressing each one of the dimensions of social integrations as proposed by Boswell, as referred to the access to services, the political representation and the cultural ground. Likewise, the measures and the structures around the policies and its implementation could be seen as addressing mainly the vertical dimension, since a stress is put in the diverse bodies attached to the public institutions that bring together actor from diverse sectors to interact with the public officers and representatives. As well, the relationships with the civil society that these bodies imply are expressed as being of paramount importance for the administration in their work towards the social integration of immigrants. While issues more related to the horizontal dimension, are placed in the axis regarding the intercultural approach, where conditions for the expression of cultural diversity are tried to be set and ensured.

Nevertheless, this same grade of importance is not being perceived by the actors in the civil society, in which a current disappointment is recognized. This is due to what is seen as a degradation of these public bodies and institutions for immigrant issues, and with it, the worseness of their relationships, which used to be considered as strong and fruitful, and a notorious weakness in their power to voice the immigrant population's needs and actually influence in the decision makers. This meaning, the vertical dimension of social integration is not working at its best for the time being, as a trust and confidence in the public institutions have been lost in the past years from the immigrant communities and their representatives.

The national policy also matches the European current approach in defining the local level as main scenario for the social integration process. The encouragement for municipalities to build their social integration policies from a bottom-up approach and addressing the whole of the local population shows it. As well, the enlargement of the assistance centers in municipalities, in some cases through the partnerships with associations and organizations, in the recent years is seen by civil society actors as an improvement of the implementation of national and local policies for integration. Additionally, this last point could be also seen as result if the intention to move forward in addressing the challenges for integration that occur mainly in its horizontal dimension.

This brings us to what could be a mismatch between the Portuguese government position on immigration and immigrants, which is a positive one focused on the economic and socio-cultural benefits, and the perception of national's individuals, in which a negative view is still present based on misconceptions and stereotypes. From the sessions observed from the CBL, is evident the recurrent perception, expressed through the sharing of experiences, of being somehow attacked and discriminated by their ethnic and national origin; this, based on negative stereotypes persisting in the Portuguese's territories towards the former colonies, mainly, as the association works in its majority with Brazilian and PSAC communities.

It is not an easy and rather a delicate and complex topic this one of the national's individual's perception on immigrants in Portugal, as various factors are recognized as coming into play. In order to go deep into it, a wide variety of conceptions deeply rooted in the Portuguese culture and colonial history must be

addressed and put in relation to the recent context of crisis and the current state of institutions, not to mention the effect that the Covid-19 pandemic have had in this scenario. The first ones mentioned, seem to be especially difficult to address as they are lived in the everyday interactions and, in many contexts, normalized.

5.2 Challenges in the immigrants' integration policies of Portugal and Lisbon

As seen before, Portugal's immigrant's integration policies express the aim towards what is presented in theory as a multicultural model for integration, aiming at the creation of the grounds for tolerance and intercultural scenarios for life. They also encourage bottom-up approaches for the building of local policies, and are explicit in expressing the relevance of the role of civil society to achieve the social integration process, and therefore, in the creation and implementation of policies. This all, have positioned Portugal as standing out for a remarkable immigrant integration policy worldwide.

Nonetheless, this is contrasting with various issues being experienced, as noted by Padilla and França (2015), there is still a lot to improve. Such issues include the current situation of weakened relationships between public sector and civil society, the low clarity that national policies bring regarding the local ones and how they interact, and the questionable representation of the immigrant community in the participative processes around the development of immigration and integration policies. In these last ones, only very few representatives coming just from the main immigrants' groups are made participants. If the diverse bodies where a dialogue with the public sector is done, count only with this participation of the immigrant community then comes the question of how representative of the diversity of the immigrant population and their needs this participation really is. As well poses the question of the bottom-up approaches being effectively implemented.

Nevertheless, main challenges should be concentrated in closing the recognized gap existing between policies for social integration of immigrant population and immigrants' realities in their every-day life. How come one of the top ranked policies for immigrant integration is failing to successfully integrate immigrants? if the processes are jointly developed, indicators for each set of measures are clearly stated and measured regularly, the implementation is frequently evaluated and accountability is held, why is it not entirely working?

The creation of diverse public institutions dedicated to immigrants' social integration in charge to implement the measures in the policies and the expansion of the assistance to immigrants in the national territory, does show commitment and a well-structured policy in its mandate and implementation strategies. But the implementation itself is not being experienced as good and, still, it results in difficult integration processes and situations for immigrants.

According to the experience of CBL in their almost 30 years of work, causes for it should be found and tackle in: the national institutions themselves and the quality of the services they provide, as they fail to do it not just for immigrants but for nationals as well; the way in which immigrants regulation processes are managed; and the lack of a strong education tackling misconceptions and discrimination.

This then would bring a reflection around how important strong institutions, recently negatively affected by pandemic situation, are for immigration legal processes from the civil society and how this influence every other dimension of immigrants' life that prevent them for successfully integrating into the host society. Without legal documentation various rights are systematically denied and access to services is made impossible in many cases, adding the discrimination based on individuals' perceptions on immigration and immigrants, even within the public institutions dedicated to serve them.

5.3 Situation of the immigrant civil society

For the studied case, it was made evident how within the immigrant civil society in Portugal, immigrant associations are protagonist, especially the ones of the major immigrant groups, namely Brazil and PSAC communities. This protagonism is explained by the trajectory, history and wide presence of this communities in the country; linked inevitable to the colonial past and sharing, therefore, the Portuguese language. This protagonism seems to be also true in regards to the development that these associations have had through the years, their growth and visibility and recognition by the public entities. This is then resulting in being these association getting the major support and having more representation and participation in dialogue spaces.

Nevertheless, the other side of it is having other immigrants' groups not represented or supported, and most importantly giving them least visibility and

opportunities to voice their community's needs. A wide range of immigrant communities could then be experiencing a situation in which they are a minority within a minority, that could translate in major difficulties in their integration processes, especially when the language barrier is also an additional challenge and especial legal agreements between Portugal's and their country of origin governments do not exist as they do for the case of Brazil, for example.

The matter of visibility, recognition and size is not the only difference spotted amongst the immigrants' associations and organizations. Differences are also present in how they are managed, their focus; as there are organizations focus in education, others in cultural promotion, other are managed more as clubs and others, the bigger ones, more like institutions. Nevertheless, their main feature is that they respond to communities of the different origin countries, not to areas of the city, as communities are dispersed through the city and its metropolitan area. An exception to this, are associations like Renovar a Mouraria and the Cape Verdean association Cretcheu de Almada. The first one, corresponds to an area in the city's downtown which defines itself as a multicultural neighborhood and is historically recognized as such within the traditional city's structure. The second one, is one of the first associations established as Cape Verdean is the first immigrant community in the country and it responded to the overrepresentation from this group in the areas of the first periphery of Lisbon, as presented by Gaspar-Silva (2018).

This could then help to explain the lack of closer relationships with the city and neighborhood spaces and scales and the desire to build them for the future. When serving a community that is not geographically or spatially grouped in the city, a strong sense of relation to the place in a small scale is lost, there is not such this as belonging to a neighborhood as immigrant community, rather to the city. Such a feature would then have to give city related strategies if a closer relationship to the spaces of the city is desired. The take of the public space as democratic space and scenario of demonstration is already a dimension of this.

One of the most relevant features around the immigrant civil society in the studied case, is the already presented perception of a degraded relationship with the public sector. A sentiment of disappointment accompanied by the view of having less dialogue with decision makers are part of this. It comes as a result of a decaying process in the last years, for in past decades dialogues were con-

stant and the role of the civil society in the decision making very much stronger. It seems then that giving an active and strong voice to civil society was a need for the public sector back when policies for immigrants' social integration were nonexistent and there was this needed to conceive them. Whereas it is not that important any more were policies and the implementation structures and bodies are set and running for a while now.

Whatever the case, this could be leading to a point in which a critical view on the public policies is totally vanished and a proper evaluation for its progress and improvement is no longer possible. Even though the spaces in which civil society still has a voice are not being as successful as before, civil society still highlight the importance of being part of them. For example, being part of the Council for Migrations is described by civil society representatives as a voicing work to try and bring reality of daily life of immigrants a bit closer to those in power in policy-making, even when they also perceive it currently as being there just for a reaffirmation of the existing system.

Another important feature, was the Dispersion and lack of collective identity and collective continuous action between the associations and organizations. As for the previous issue, this could also come as a current issue in opposition to past decades in which joint actions were bigger and more relevant. Additionally, as mentioned by CBL president, this has a link to situation of competing for state-based financial funding; a situation similar to the case of immigrant organizations in Spain documented by López-Sala and Godenau (2019), where even views on this could be interpret as an excessive control from the state to the organizations through the funding matter.

The main issue then turns around the dilemma, or duality, between depending financially on the state and staying an independent contesting political actor. This issue is well acknowledged by the associations, discuss and debated within diverse actors in the civil society; the need for financial sustainability and the consequences on funding competition and the distancing/dispersion this causes. In the case studied, the totality of projects of the association CBL is being state financed, which puts a pressure by needing constantly to apply for such funding, almost on an annual base, to keep the sustainability of the association. Another consequence of the previous, is the impact it has had in the development process of the immigrant associations towards institution-like working.

In order to get funded, professional staff capable of writing project proposals, doing evaluations reports and project management is needed. And from them a vicious circle could develop, where more projects are granted for major funding, creating the demand of a bigger and more professionals staff, and where the way to reach more assisted people is to keep growing in the previous two, projects and professional staff. This growing pattern have then become the synonym of the process of development that associations should or aim to undergo, and it is true that many of them have went or are going through it now, at different paces and in different moments of time based on how long they have been working, their size and the community's resources.

5.4 Reflections on the strategies by CBL to contribute to social integration

A first feature evidenced in the CBL's work and the way they define themselves is the fact of keeping diverse roles, functioning as mediators, political advocates, culture transmitters and service providers. Nevertheless, the political role is the most accentuated one, by this mean they keep their aim of influencing in the policies making processes and stand as advocates for immigrants' right in the political discussion. As well it seems to be a differentiating feature between a community club and a rights defense association.

It was also seen how, through their work, Social integration is address in all its dimensions. This, through continuous activities and having projects as frameworks and funding sources for supporting such continuous ideas and achieve specific goals targeting particular problematics. The projects that address more than one dimension in an integrated matter are also the ones where bonds with other organizations or actors are done. Showing not just integration of issues regarding different dimensions tackled, but integration of work from different actors, and therefore, their resources; which generates opportunities for knowledge sharing and creating as well as more spaces for dialogue.

On this last-mentioned issue, the generation of spaces for dialogue, a very remarkable feature is how the topics of interest and current discussion in debates and discussion sessions, match the critical points of the situation of the civil society and most difficult issues to address around immigration and social integration as seen in the current local and international contexts. This could be seen as not a strong intention in not just creating spaces for dialogue, but as

well for keeping up with the international discussions and how they are related to the local situation experienced; and the fact that actors from diverse sectors are invited to participate makes it also enriched. Some of these topics, many of which are also addressed in theories and experiences presented in the theoretical framework, are:

- lack of collective action within immigrant civil society
- the under-representation of immigrant communities in decision making processes
- the nature of the relationships with the state-based institutions and its impacts
- the role of diverse actors and sectors in the integration process
- the role of the diverse kinds of media in the perception and representation of immigrants
- critical negative points on the public policies and its consequences
- issues that cannot be solved through policies
- issues that are only visible at the micro level in the interaction with nationals
- feminization of immigration and the issues that affect this population in particular ways
- gender equality, xenophobia and discrimination by religion or ethnic or national origin

As well, huge efforts seem to be done in keeping diversity in terms of the background and sector of the actors participating in the different projects and activities. Additionally, participatory methods are still kept at the base of all the projects developed by the association, as they are meant for the immigrant communities and participation of immigrants through the diverse projects phases is then crucial. In order to keep this participation running, they work to maintain direct contact with members of the community in diverse contexts; formal informative session, informal gatherings, collective & one to one assistance, cultural events, political actions, demonstrations in the public spaces. In this way they keep themselves close and grounded within the community while gathering pieces of realities as inputs for further work, projects and action.

Nevertheless, the association might be suffering a sort of bubble effect. It seems that it is currently struggling to keep a sufficient number of participating and

active members of their community and to increase it, of course. The low numbers of participants in the diverse observed sessions are a hint for this, as well as the recognizable established group of participants; it must be considered that the passing to online activity due to the pandemic situation could have also affect the participation in the sessions. Adding to the sense of a bubble effect, is the fact of not being able to bring into the discussion opposite, contesting or diverse views. This is related to the fact of also not being able to successfully integrate varied Portuguese nationals into the discussions, despite the efforts, as the association well acknowledges it. Discussions and dialogues are then staying mainly within the immigrant civil society, and only reaching nationals already connected to this sector or working in the immigrant integration process from other sectors; lacking then a real debate. This has created other ways to try and reach this population, as the one presented in projects such as MigraMyths, where social media is used as one of the communications and dissemination channels. Nonetheless, these are still steps to take towards a diverse and deep debate including a more varied spectrum of the society.

6. Recommendations & Conclusion

This last section includes final considerations and suggestions regarding the study done. It is divided into three sections: Recommendations that can be applied in the CBL, Lisbon, Portugal case; proposals for future research that could be valuable for the studied context; and overall conclusions from the present research.

6.1 Recommendations

Recommendations in three issues will be presented here, responding to issue found in the diverse scales that this study looked upon.

First, on the public policies for social integration of immigrants, at national and local levels and how there is still a lot of failures in its implementation, reflected in the recurrent negative experiences of immigrants whose rights are denied. This is a complex situation that requires a very deep and attentive look for its improvement. Nonetheless, as starting points we could mention an approach to measures fostering the horizontal dimension of social integration, investing in intercultural education in the diverse spaces of formal and informal education and a profound evaluation of the training received by the whole staff in institutions dealing with immigrants and immigration issues.

Regarding the current situation of the immigrant civil society in Lisbon, the focus would be in going from temporary collaborations to permanent joint working in order to achieve the desired collective sense and action, integrating the resources and communities of the diverse associations and organizations. For doing so, a revision could be done looking back and analyzing the temporary

strategies built for projects development, and identifying positive and negative outcomes and the factors that allowed them. Such identifications could then serve as base for building the collective strategy.

Most importantly, it should be recognized that such collective strategy would not be built from zero, but that a platform could be developed from the existing network; not just for collective action but also for searching for joint alternatives of funding. Current projects such as Lisboa Acolhe are already establishing a collective digital platform that could be considered a first space from which to grow in the collective building in other dimensions. As well, financial sustainability could also be searched collectively.

Regarding the CBL and its aim in having a closer relationship with the city and the neighborhood level, joint actions with the neighborhood's existing initiatives or events could be proposed. The association could take good advantage of the centered and traditional location in the city, even if it not a major residential area, for actions engaging the use of public spaces with high visibility and reception capacity.

The association already partners with collectives to take the streets and the public space for demonstration on their political and social protests and this could be extended to other existing activities of the association serving other purposes. For instance, the informal gatherings, some of the informative sessions, and actions of their awareness campaigns could be translated to the shared spaces of the neighborhood and the city and gain in their local bonds, increasing their chances to engage newcomers to their discussions and bring themselves closer to the city.

Another path for this could be the specialization of the data they collect, so that a contribution could be made to understand, communicate and propose more effectively, in relation with the situations of the diverse areas of the cities in which the community they serve is located. This could as well result in grounded local actions within neighborhoods and stronger bonds to more local collectivities.

6.2 Future Research

There were two situations identified in the present study which I consider could be relevant topics for future research: the process of deterioration of the relationship between the public sector and the immigrant society sector in LMA and the gap existing between a recognized good integration policy and the realities experienced by the immigrants in their everyday life in LMA.

In relation to the first one, it would be interesting to look on how this process developed. This meaning how did associations and organizations of the immigrant civil society in Lisbon went from a collaboration to a more subordinated position regarding the public sector in charge of the policy making process. Main questions to answer would be: which were the turning points in this process, what were these main events, when and why they happened; which was the influence of the diverse actors implied and their relationships; and which is actually the current capacity and power on influence in the policy making process and how it is compared to the different moments of the process.

In relation to the second one, it would be important to look closer on how the going from the written policies to their implementation and the effect on the immigrant population is done and what is exactly not being achieved. In other words, to look at the shift from theory to practice and the challenges in it. Main questions to answer would be: which are the main causes for this gap to exist and which complementary causes there could be; which are the factors influencing this situation and its causes; how to address factors that policy alone cannot address; and finally, how could this gap could be closed or bridged.

6.3 Conclusion

The aim of this research was to explore the strategies and tools of Immigrant Organizations and Associations in Lisbon for enhancing social integration within the frame of public policies for social integration of immigrant population in the Portuguese context. To do so, a focus was place in how structures and policies around social integration of immigrant population work in Portugal and LMA and where do immigrant organizations and associations stand towards them, and in how and by which means does the association Casa do Brasil de Lisboa seek to impact the social integration of immigrant communities in LMA.

A first conclusion on this goes around the concept of social integration itself. The reviewed literature reassured social integration as a condition for sustainable development of more just cities and societies. As well, it showed the complexity of the concept of social integration, and concepts related or associated to it, for its abstract character can play against it and making it appear as vague while being assigned multiple definitions in diverse contexts and moments. However, there were three characteristics that were repetitively associated to the understanding of such concept, namely the access to services, the political and the cultural ground. They were posed as dimensions of social integration, as processes integrating the process of social integration and even as axes in the policies for social integration around which measure were proposed.

The reviewed literature also brought light on the dominant international view on heading towards multicultural integration models proposed by governments, focusing in the economic and socio-cultural benefits of immigration and the important role it plays at counter balances the demographic aging in the European context. Therefore, the implementation of public policies always going more in line with this view.

Nonetheless, policies alone are not enough and the Portuguese case studied here is an example of it. This case teaches how good and well thought policies for integration alone are not all that is required for integration processes to move forwards positively, for there is still a huge gap between these policies and the actual processes experienced by immigrants and immigrant communities in Portugal.

This then reassures the need and importance of the immigrant associations and organizations as mediators and their work in immigrants' rights defense, assistance and service provision. A look to the immigrant civil society in Lisbon and the activities of CBL, pointed out the political role as ultimate strategy to contribute to social integrating by actually searching to influence in the policy making process, and through it, try and bridge the distance between immigrants and decision makers. For doing so, participatory methods at keep at the core and as starting point of action; the diverse projects and activities developed would response to the inputs received from the immigrants collective and individual needs and experiences. Consequently, a continuity of activities that keep the direct communication is ensured, to keep the grounded relationship to the

community and its members.

However, a lack of unity in immigrant civil society is perceived and desires of stronger and collective constant action are expressed. Competing for resources as a result of the state-funding schemes might be a major structure affecting this issue, as it has also impacted the growth and institutionalization of associations. As well, this institutionalization could be perceived as adapting and transformation processes for giving response to the diverse and increasing numbers of the immigrant population. But from another point of view, it could be seen as intended to obtain major financial resources at the cost of risking the continuity of other activities and values or characteristics of the associations. A complex situation is then presented for the present and future of the immigrant associations in the quest for maintaining independence and sustainability.

Key to the above mentioned seem to be the partnerships with other, and more diverse, actors in the civil society sector including new forms of associations such as collectives. The creation of spaces, virtual and physical in the city, for such joint processes could also be key in the process, while adding to a closer relationship with the city and neighborhood levels.

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Appendix

Appendix 1. Table of CBL reviewed projects and services

	Name	Status	Funding	Description/Goal	Activities	Methodology	Participation	Outputs/Outcomes
SERVICES	Orientation and Referring Office (GGE)	Continuous	FAMI - ACM	GGE is part of the CLAIM (Local Support Center for the Integration of Migrants) network, partnered with the Lisbon City Council under the PMIMA - Lisbon Municipal Plan for Migrants 2018-2020, and offers guidance regarding the regularization and regularization in Portugal, as well as access to public and private services, such as: health, education, justice, social security, among others. The office also reports on labor rights and other issues related to the integration of Brazilian immigrants and other nationalities in Portugal.	Personal assistance to individuals. Also used as a tool for data collection and characterization of the immigrant population in Lisbon.	Open office for service provision through individual assistance and support. Service given by volunteering professionals.	Open to every migrant. Mainly Brazilians taking this service and participating from the pools and surveys.	Individuals and families assisted in processes of regularization and access to services.
	Professional Information Office (GIP)	Continuous	Through projects	The Professional Information Office (GIP) of the Casa do Brasil in Lisbon provides support to unemployed youth and adults in their career of insertion or professional and / or training reintegration.	Development of job search curricula and techniques Dissemination and referral for job offers and qualification Guidance for measures to support entrepreneurship The office also establishes partnerships with companies and training providers that use its free recruitment support services for job offers and training	Open office for service provision through individual assistance and support. Service given by volunteering professionals.	Open to every migrant. Mainly Brazilians taking this service and participating from the pools and surveys. Linkage to private sector	Individuals and families assisted in processes for job market integration. Platform for Enterprises, companies and providers to make their offers visible to job seekers.
	Cycle of Information Sessions	Continuous	Through projects	With specific themes, the Information Sessions Cycle complements the work carried out by the Mutual Aid Group, as it is a more specific information space regarding rights and duties.	They are informative sessions with themes such as: Regularization in Portugal; Rights and Duties of Immigrants, Portuguese Nationality, Access to Health, Rights and Duties of the Worker and Migrations in the Feminine.	Topics chosen in relation to the current funding project, and main interests discovered in the GGE, GIP and Grupo Acolhida. Sessions done by experts in the areas of topic.	Seminars on specific information dissemination occurs through CBL's dissemination channels on social networks.	Debates around interest topics Group building and assistance
	Grupo Acolhida	Continuous	Through projects	Mutual Aid Group. Group/community building Support network building	Grupo Acolhida has the concept of group work, a space for conversations, sharing information and experiences, since the shared experience reduces isolation, provides reflections and increases the chances of overcoming difficulties through the solidarity network that is formed	weekly meetings of the Mutual Aid Group. Free open discussion/conversation casual meeting, sharing - no formalities	Participation is free and open to all migrants Mainly Brazilian community	Experienced shared Networks connections Socio-emotional support
	Bar da Casa	Continuous	Self financed	It is a space for meeting cultures that aims to support artists to show their work to different audiences, promoting knowledge and interaction in an alternative circuit. Its main objective is the integration by culture and knowledge in a participative and transforming perspective.	Bar da Casa is the cultural space where the association develops and hosts activities from various artistic areas, such as musical concerts, theater, exhibitions, gastronomy, cinema cycles, workshops, exhibitions, debates and lectures.	Connected to and to immigrants and Brazilian affairs, its mission actively intervenes not only for the dissemination of Brazilian culture, namely the new Brazilian artists / little known in Portugal, but also for the creation of a space for political action, reflection and debate of ideas. Planned by events days	Participation is open to all migrants Mainly Brazilian community	Dissemination of Brazilian culture Artists supported Funds Collected Experienced shared Networks connections Socio-cultural support
	CEDOC- Documentation Center	Continuous	Self financed	Casa do Brasil in Lisbon has a space for research on topics related to Brazil, the relations between Brazil and Portugal, Portuguese speaking in general and the issues of and of immigrants in Portugal				Collection of relevant documentation that can be consulted in place
PROJECTS	Migrante Participa fora de portas	Concluded	Programa de Apoio ao Associativismo Migrante (PAM) 2018/2019 - ACM	Objective: to promote participation of immigrants residing in Portugal	Seminars Informative paniflets and sheets	debate, diagnosis and proposal of solution of issues and topics of interest	Participation in the collective creation of the diagnosis and proposals process	Document of diagnosis and recommendations Informative publications
	Infoma em Ação	Concluded	FAMI - ACM	promote access to the NHS (HEALTHCARE SYSTEM) by migrants and to improve the conditions in which it takes place, as well as to increase the information and awareness of professionals about specificities in the care of migrants.	informative session by professionals of the health care system to immigrants	Facilitation of communication between professionals of the health care system and immigrants. Participatory construction of the informative guidelines (the product).	In partnership with: GAT Treatment Activist Group, GABIP Almirante Reis and USF da Baixa	Casa do Brasil in Lisbon, as a promoter of the Infoma in Action Project, publishes the 3 information guides on access and health care for migrant people and health professionals. The guides are available in 6 languages: Bengali, French, English, Mandarin, Nepali, Portuguese.
	Sinergia- o que nos une	Concluded	FAMI - ACM	Collaboration between 3 migrant associations/organizations in Lisbon to share experiences on participatory methods for integration.	individual projects and collective meetings as exchange of experiences and collective evaluation and forward building.	Each association/organisation develops its methodologies and exchange and share them with the other. Collectively these are evaluated, exchanged, compared, and collectively a pool of strategies for participatory methods for integration can be done.	Focus is placed in the participatory methods being used in each association/organization's and how they can collectively learn from them.	Final concluding session Documentary
	European social forum on migration	Concluded	Self - financed/ self-managed	Discussions towards a collective agenda of alternative struggles in favor of migration with rights and against machisms, racism and all forms of discrimination and oppression	Self-managed online sessions and activities Online convergence assemblies	Topics brought into discussion by the different participants (organizations, associations, social movements, academia, etc) Debate of the topics and convergence session for collective reflection and proposals	Participation free and open for all the sessions and activities held space for individuals testimonies and participation	Document on declaration of the assembly of social movements of the 1 European social forum on migration
	Migramyths	Ongoing	Portuguese Republic- ACM	The project aims to fight myths around immigrants and immigration, combating negative stereotypes, discrimination and xenophobia. It focuses in acting in the social media field as it is the scenario of propagation of fake news and reproduction of these myths and stereotypes	Debate sessions Graphic: information pieces in social media	gathering of stories and experiences Survey Sharing facts to unveil myths and stereotypes	Personal experiences of immigrants are collected and shared. Participation in the open debate sessions	Diagnosis Report
	Migrante Participa em Sintra	Ongoing	EU social fund Portugal 2020 Lisboa 2020	aims to foster spaces for sharing experiences and knowledge on topics related to the migrant community, residing in the territories of Alameda-Mem Martins and Quiluz e Beias, with a special focus on gender issues. Its main objective is to promote social inclusion and fight poverty	Gatherings Information sessions	In order to promote social participation, employability and information about rights and duties, it is envisaged to stimulate gatherings and information sessions in different places in Sintra, the preparation of information leaflets and the holding of a final seminar	These actions will be carried out through participatory processes, involving the migrant community and institutions, in a collective construction of paths towards equality	Information pieces and sessions on legal processes and how to assure the rights of immigrants to access of the diverse services and structures
	Lisboa acolhe	ongoing	camara municipal Lisboa	Web portal gathering all the information needed for immigrants reception and welcoming in one same place. Give a solution to the dispersion of information.	Web portal constantly updated carrying the information needed for diverse areas of immigrants reception and integration as well as in the contact of all the organizations and associations of the civil society working in social integration of immigrants	The web portal was builded in cooperation with immigrants themselves, in the diagnosis and recollection of information and with the diverse organizations and associations.	immigrant community directly participated in the preparatory phases, the building of the web portal and testimonies are featured in the portal	web portal
	Migrar com direitos	ongoing	Portuguese republic am fami IU MAM	Project focused in the defense of immigrants rights	Information sessions on legal procedures and processes for immigrant population. Debate sessions on critical topics of interest within the immigrant community, inviting actors from diverse sectors	Topics that have been recurrent in the day to day work of the association are compiled and prioritized. The most relevant topics and more demanded are brought to debates and worked on information sessions open to the public.	The addressed topics are in a way given by the people reaching the associations services, sessions and debates are open for participation	Information pieces and sessions on legal processes and how to assure the rights of immigrants to access of the diverse services and structures

Appendix 2. Table of CBL observed sessions -online-recorded

Project	Name of the session	Date	Speakers	FbLive Views	Type	Kind of content discussed
Migrar com Direitos	América Latina e Europa: Migrações cruzadas	23.07.2020 Recorded	1. João Peixoto: academia- universidade de lisboa 2. Paulina Sabugal: academia- universita de piSA 3. Paulo Illes: civil society- Rede sem Fronteras 4. Oriana Jara: civil society- presença da America latina	1,5 thousand	Conversatorio	Migration theories Cycles of migration through history between portugal and latam Emigration laws in Brazil Public policis for migraiton in latam and how they are affected by the european ones Socio-emotional dimension of migration Differences of forced and chosen migration
Migrar com Direitos	A representação Mediática dos /das Migrantes	27.08.2020 Recorded	1. Sofia José Santos: academia- Universidade de Coimbra 2. Giuliana Miranda: practitioner- Journalist 3. Pablo Sosa: practitioner- digital content creator 4. Joana Henriques: practitioner- Journalist	2.4 thousand	Conversatorio	Powers and scope of Media What media reflects and reproduce Views of migrants in the global north and media role in it Lack of diversity in media production Public space as scenario for communication
Migrar com Direitos	Detenção de Migrantes: Perspectivas Transnacionais	08.10.2020 Recorded	1. Ana ballesteros: academia- University of Toronto 2. Emellin de Oliveira: practitioner- lawyer 3. João Chaves: public sector- defensoria public de São Paulo. 4. Francesca Espósito: academia- University of Oxford	696	Conversatorio	Need to look into this cases with a gender approach Need of consideration of alternatives to detention Law context for migrants detention Views of migrants in the global north and its impacts
Migramyths	Fake news e Imigração em Portugal	13.10.2020 Recorded	1. Sofia lves: Comissao eurpea em portugal 2. Luís Carrasquinho: organização internacional das Migrações 3. Claudia Pereira: public- secreetaria de estado para a integração e as Migrações	1,7 thousand	Conversatorio	Misinformation-Disinformation Role of Social media Impact on the emotional level How to promote spaces for sharing and for diversity? Combat myths with facts
Migramyths	Comunicação Social e a (des)construção dos estereótipos	27.10.2020 Recorded	1. Camila Graveiro: academia- 2. Aline Flor: practitioner- journalist 3. Neusa Sousa	615	Conversatorio	Stereotypes on migrant women How stereotypes around migrant women are build and how can they be deconstruct? Colonial imaginary and its role in these stereotypes Division in the information and the media consumed
Migramyths	O crescimento da extrema direita e o discurso de ódio contra a Imigração	10.11.2020 Recorded	1. Samara Azevedo: civil society- coletivo Andorinha 2. João Carvalho: academia- CIES-ISCIE 3. Joana Teixeira: civil society- observatorio de extrema direita 4. Mamadou Ba: civil society- SOS Racism	1,9 thousand	Conversatorio	How this discourse shows fear to loose privileges Frictions between national and immigratns "Occident's Syndrome" and the permanent concept of the other The eurocentric point of view
Sinergia	Seminário Final-Sinergia em Ação- o que nos une	18.11.2020 Recorded	1. Asociación Casa do Brasil de Lisboa 2. Fundação Cidade de Lisboa 3. Associação Renovar a Mouraria	1.1 thousand	Relatorio	Accountability to the general public and population ojn the process and results of the project Th 3 participant associations presents their views and reports as well as the share report The Sinergia documentary (one of the products of the project) is presented Final round of QyA by the participants in the accountability event
Migramyths	O papel da representatividade política no combate ao discrso e ódio	16.12.2020 Recorded	1. Beatriz Gomes dias: public- deputy Bloco de Esquerda 2. Maria Dantas: public- deputy barcelona GP Republicano	764	Conversatorio	Role of public sector and the political parties Lack of representation in yhe political structures and public institutions Way in which political processes and representatives exclude or avoid diversity Frictions emerging trough oposition inside political instututions
Migramyths	Seminário Final-MigraMyths	21.12.2020 Recorded	1. Casa do brasil de Lisboa	764	Relatorio	Accountability to the general public and population ojn the process and results of the project The association's direction memebers presents their views and final report Results of the research for diagnosis and some individual testimonies are presented (part of the product of the project) Final round of QyA by the participants in the accountability event

Appendix 3. Table of CBL observed sessions -online-live

Project	Name of the session	Date	Speakers	FbLive Views	Type	Kind of content discussed
Migrar com Direitos	Bem-estar, pandemia e migrações	24.02.2021 Live	1. Bethania Monteforte Sasseron: practitioner- psychologist 2. Livia Rolim: practitioner- psychologist 3. Nany Aguilár: Civil society- Collective Queer Tropical 4. Paulo Cunha: practitioner- psychologist		Conversatorio	Impact of quarantine in mental health Special impacts on migrants, including emotional ones How the pandemic context leave migrants in a more vulnerable position
Migrar com Direitos	Mulheres Migrantes em Ativismo	11.03.2021 Live	1. Alexia: civil society- Associação Diaspora sem Fronteiras 2. Aline: civil society- Coletiva Maria Felipa 3. Sandra: Civil society- Collective in formation	891	Conversatorio	Importance of women in leadership roles Stereotypes around Brazilian migrant women, and how colonialism and sexism has shaped them How to deconstruct such a view on Brazilian women which is so strong in Portugal society?
Fórum Social Europeu das Migrações	Primeira sessão	15.03.2021 Live	1. Beatriz Gomes Dias 2. Jille Belisario 3. Georgia Iinardi: civil society- Sea Watch ONG 4. Mamadou Ba		Forum	Introduction to the forum as a whole event Objective of the days of the event and how it will be developed Introduction of partner institutions and guests Testimonials by migrants Guests conferences with brief round of questions Invitation to follow the event for the whole length of it and participate in the activities
Migrar com Direitos	Racismo, Racialização e Xenofobia	22.04.21 Live	1. Indira Fernando: academia- phd em Direitos humanos 2. Danilo Cardoso: academia- professor de Historia, grupo educar 3. Juliana Wahlgren: civil society- European Network Against Racism	643	Conversatorio	The difficulty of speaking about racism and xenophobia in Europe Education with antiracist principles as a key Impact of colonialism and its rests in the racism and xenophobia in Europe Concept of racialization and its relation to concept of identity and its components How can civil society organizations really reach affected people? Racism present also in the civil society sector in Portugal, lack of representation Lack of unity in civil society in Portugal
Migrar com Direitos	Masculinidades, migração e estereótipos	29.04.21 Live	1. Ana Carolina Ferraz: academia- phd estudos de género Universidade de Lisboa 2. Delso Batista: civil society- Coletivo Queer Tropical 3. Ricardo Higuera Mellado: Civil society- Men talks Lisboa	643	Conversatorio	How is gender equality addressed. How do men deal with reflections on gender equality. The concept and ideas of masculinity. Interculturality in the gender debate. The difficulty to talk about gender-based violence in the European context. Personal experiences and discrimination. Creation of safe spaces for gender discussions for men.
Migrar com Direitos	Media, estereótipos e pessoas migrantes	13.05.21 Live	1. Carla Cerqueira: academia- Universidade Lusófona de Porto, researcher CICANT 2. Giuliana Miranda: practitioner- journalist 3. Helena Vicente: academi- researcher Instituto de Ciências Sociais da UL	529	Conversatorio	Lack or representation of immigrants in media scene. Role of media towards perception of immigration and immigrant groups. How to create spaces for immigrant population to voice issues publicly. Divisions and fragmentations in the media consumed.

Appendix 4. Interviewees and questionnaire

Interviewees:

- Ana Paula Costa: Staff member in Casa do Brasil de Lisboa and former member of its direction team. Portuguese Institute of International Relations. PhD candidate in Political Science, specialty in Public Policies. Nova Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal.
- Cyntia de Paula: President in Casa do Brasil de Lisboa and representative of the Brazilian community in the Council for Migration. Psychologist and Masters in Communitarian Psychology.
- Carlos Vianna: Co-founder of Casa do Brasil de Lisboa and former president of the association. Former representative for the Brazilian community in the Council for Migration.

Questionnaire:

1. What is Casa do Brasil de Lisboa?
2. Which are CBL's principles?
3. Who is the team of CBL? In terms of disciplines and cultural backgrounds composition, division of tasks and linkage to the association.
4. How would CBL define Social Integration?
5. Which would CBL consider the criteria to be met in order to achieve Social Integration? How to meet them?
6. How does CBL work towards that definition and goals of social integration?
7. Which do you consider are the main barriers, obstacles or challenges to be work on for immigrant social integration in Lisbon M.A. and Portugal?
8. What aspects of social integration are not considered or scape from the scope of the public policies for social integration in Portugal?
9. Does the Association address these aspects? If yes, how?
10. Does the Association seek to have an impact or influence in these policies? If yes, how? As civil society Association, do you participate of the discussion of public policies with the public sector? How?

11. Are there spaces or opportunities for exchange and discussion with policy makers and decision makers?
12. How do CBL define participation?
13. Which role does participation has in CBL work? How are people involved in the Association's processes?
14. In which terms and phases of CBL's projects is participation involved?
15. Do you actively work to get the participation from other nationalities including the national population? If yes, how?
16. How can CBL's projects development processes be described or breakdown?
17. How are they funded?
18. How is the accountability done? To whom?
19. How are they evaluated?
20. How would CBL define its relationship to the public sector? And the one between the migrant civil society and the public sector?
21. In the frame of the Social Integration national and local policies, where does the Association stands in the operative system?
22. Who are CBL's main partners, collaborators, allies?
23. What kind of relationships exists within the immigrant civil society in Lisbon and Portugal?
24. Which has been the role of the public institutions in the development and growth of the Association? And the immigrant civil society?
25. What is the Council for Migration and how does it work?
26. Who is part of the CM?
27. What power does the CM has?
28. Which are the current main challenges for the association's work?
29. How have Covid-19 affected in the Association's work?
30. How does CBL envision the Association's role and situation in the future?

غارسيا أوتيرو فانيسا

الهجرة و الاندماج الاجتماعي
لشبونة, البرتغال مقاربات من المجتمع المدني للمهاجرين ودراسة لحالة

نبذة مختصرة

من المعروف على نطاق واسع هو النقاش الدولي حول موضوع الهجرة ونضال الحكومات والمدن في التعامل مع تلك القضية. الهدف من هذا البحث هو استكشاف استراتيجيات منظمات ورابطات المهاجرين في لشبونة لتعزيز الاندماج الاجتماعي في إطار السياسات العامة للاندماج الاجتماعي للسكان المهاجرين في السياق البرتغالي. ولقد استكشف البحث السياسات المتعلقة بالاندماج الاجتماعي للمهاجرين في لشبونة والبرتغال وفعاليات جمعيات المهاجرين للمساهمة في هذا الاندماج الاجتماعي. فباستخدام نهج نوعي، تم جمع البيانات من خلال البحث المكتبي وتحليل الوثائق والملاحظة والمقابلات. وتم تحديد وتحليل الهياكل والعمليات، إلى جانب التصورات المتعلقة بها والاستراتيجيات والطرق المستخدمة لتنفيذها. تكشف النتائج عن مستويات مختلفة من الفعاليات التي تحت جمعية المهاجرين على التعامل مع المكونات المتنوعة في الاندماج الاجتماعي مع الحفاظ على المشاركة كأساس لتلك الفعاليات. وقد وجد أن هناك فجوة بين الخبرات السياسية والحياتية للمهاجرين، وأن هناك عملية تدهور متصورة في العلاقات بين القطاعين العام والمجتمع المدني، وعدم وجود جماعية في عمل قطاع المجتمع المدني. ومن المحتمل أن ذلك يرجع للتأثر بخطط تمويل الدولة التي تؤثر أيضا على إضفاء الطابع المؤسسي على الجمعيات واستدامتها. يمكن أن يكون النمو في المبنى الجماعي وفي العلاقات مع المدينة ومساحات الأحياء أمرا أساسيا لمزيد من التطوير.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الهجرة، الاندماج الاجتماعي، المجتمع المدني للمهاجرين، سياسات الاندماج الاجتماعي للمهاجرين، لشبونة، البرتغال.

إقرار

هذه الرسالة مقدمة في جامعة عين شمس وجامعة شوتجارت للحصول على درجة العمران المتكامل والتصميم المستدام. إن العمل الذي تحويه هذه الرسالة قد تم إنجازه بمعرفة الباحث سنة ...

هذا ويقر الباحث أن العمل المقدم هو خلاصة بحثه الشخصي وأنه قد اتبع الأسلوب العلمي السليم في الإشارة إلى المواد المؤخذه من المراجع العلمية كل في مكانه في مختلف أجزاء الرسالة..

وهذا إقرار مني بذلك،،،

التوقيع:

غارسيا أوتيرو فانيسا

07/30/2021

الهجرة و الاندماج الاجتماعي

يندمج العمل اعمتاجا نم تابراقم لا غتربلا ,قنوبشل
قلاحل قساردون يراجاهملل

مقدمة للحصول على درجة الماجستير في العمران المتكامل والتصميم المستدام

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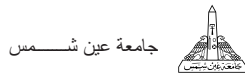
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تاريخ المناقشة:

الدراسات العليا

أجيزت الرسالة بتاريخ:
موافقة مجلس الجامعة .../.../...

ختم الإجازة
موافقة مجلس الكلية .../.../...





الهجرة و الاندماج الاجتماعي

لشبونة, البرتغال مقاربات من المجتمع المدني للمهاجرين ودراسة لحالة

رسالة مقدمة للحصول على درجة الماجستير في العمران المتكامل والتصميم المستدام

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