



Kulturno društvo Gmajna
Ulica Vide Pregarčeve 11
1000 Ljubljana



Ljubljana, 23. 02. 2023

INVITATION: EMVI TRAINING SESSIONS “EMPOWERING MIGRANT VOICES”

In 2023, KD Gmajna is hosting a series of 10 training sessions in the framework of the project **Empowering Migrant Voices on Integration and Inclusion Policies (EMVI)**. The project EMVI aims to increase the inclusion of migrants in local and national decision-making processes.

The training sessions “Empowering Migrant Voices” seek to engage migrants and migrant communities in Slovenia and provide training in political literacy and civic participation tools. They are based on 10 EMVI online modules exploring various topics - migrant and human rights, housing, civic engagement, gender equality, advocacy, networking, project management, linguistic integration, fundraising - and feature experts from different fields.

Sessions on **Housing as a Human Right** will take place **Monday, 27. 02. 2023, from 17:00 to 21:00**, in the **Info-office** project space located on **Ulica Vide Pregarčeve 11**.

A presentation will be hosted by representatives from **Zadrugator** and **Najemniški SOS** (Renters’ SOS) that push for fairer access to the real estate market and promote renters’ rights. The hosts are Rok Ramšak and Maša Hawlina (Zadrugator).

The so-called housing crisis is an everyday reality for billions of people, particularly those that live in major cities. Slovenia is no exception. The almost complete withdrawal of the state and politics from the field of housing provision in the early 90s has led to a dire situation where housing is becoming an issue for an increasing number of people. The negative consequences of the lack of suitable policies and the lack of public investment in public housing are exacerbated by the process of financialization, where individual and institutional investors are focusing their investments on housing – rapidly driving housing prices up.

At the event, we will discuss the existing housing situation, look at the reasons and concrete politics behind it and focus on the specific challenges of tenants as one of the most vulnerable social groups. We will also discuss the changes that are urgently needed on the systemic level and the potential for bottom-up solutions such as housing cooperatives and building a tenants union.

Maša Hawlina is a sociologist, a founding member of the housing cooperative Zadugator and a co-founder of the Institute of Housing and Space. She has vast experience in activism, public advocacy, and knowledge of housing politics.

Rok Ramšak is a sociologist with experience working in the NGO, social enterprises and business sectors. His expertise focuses on housing models and housing policy, business development, corporate social responsibility (CSR), and sustainable transformation.

The presentation will be followed by a training session on how to search for an apartment in Slovenia. We will discuss challenges faced by migrants when searching for an apartment and look at strategies to overcome them.

The event will be in English. Translation can be provided. We can offer assistance with transportation and childcare. Let us know if you need assistance.

Food and beverages will be provided.

Contact: **Katja Utroša, KD Gmajna, mobile: 070 672 279**

Schedule (27. 02.):

17:00 Training Session 3: Housing as a Human Right (Zadrugator, Najemniški SOS)

Break

19:00 Training Session 4: How to Search for an Apartment?

Catering

Online links:

<https://zadrugator.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/zadrugator>

<https://najemniski-sos.si/>

<https://www.facebook.com/NajemniskiSOS>

Upcoming training sessions:

21. 3. 2023 - Strategic Communication, Networking, Advocacy: Društvo Medkulturni dialog

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