

Dear {{ contact.FIRSTNAME }},

February brings a renewed sense of momentum, a chance to build on the energy of the past months and set new ideas into motion. Across the PLACE community, we continue to see creativity, leadership, and collaboration shaping spaces of opportunity and inclusion.

This month, we're celebrating the impact of our programs, sharing key insights from ongoing initiatives, and looking ahead to the milestones still to come. Whether through research, entrepreneurship, or community-driven action, every step forward is made possible by the people who bring these projects to life, like you! Let's dive in!

Entrepreneurship Fest 2025 In Partnership with La Ruche

Celebrating EntrepreneurshipFest 2025: A Night to Remember

PLACE kicked off the year right with **La Ruche**. On January 22nd, in partnership with La Ruche, we hosted **EntrepreneurshipFest 2025**, bringing together **entrepreneurs**, **innovators**, and **community leaders** to celebrate our **Fast Forward cohort**, innovative entrepreneur **women with migration backgrounds**.

From the remarkable project showcases to engaging themed discussions, the evening truly celebrated the **innovation** and **creativity** that fuel our communities. We hope you found the experience as inspiring and impactful as we did.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the success of the evening and to our partners and collaborators La Ruche.

Watch the short video below for highlights of the event and stay tuned to discover the achievements of innovative business leaders with migration backgrounds in the PLACE community.

We also invite you to check out the innovative projects developed by our business leaders this year in **this booklet**.



RES-MOVE: Transforming Coworking Spaces into Hubs of Inclusion

How can coworking spaces become catalysts for opportunity and inclusion? This is the question driving **RES-MOVE**, a European project exploring how these co-working and collaborative spaces can better support migrant communities **across 13 European territories**.

Our latest research reveals a stark reality: while Paris is home to over **40 diverse coworking spaces**, from collaborative hubs to incubators, many remain out of reach for migrants due to **high costs**, **language barriers**, and **limited networking opportunities**. At the same time, migrants continue to face greater challenges in the job market, with **unemployment rates at 13%**, nearly double that of non-migrants.

But coworking spaces have the potential to change this. Through RES-MOVE, PLACE is working with these spaces to:

- Train managers on inclusive workplace practices
- ✓ Organize skill-building seminars tailored for migrant professionals
- ▼ Foster strategic partnerships with NGOs to expand access

By addressing these gaps, coworking spaces can become thriving ecosystems where everyone, regardless of background, has the opportunity to succeed.

A full report, including insights from our European partner cities, **will be published in March**. Stay tuned as we continue shaping more inclusive futures across the continent!

RES-MOVE Supports Inclusive Coworking Spaces





RES-MOVE is helping coworking spaces become more inclusive by:

- Training staff to better include migrants & address migration and refugee backgrounds sensitively.
- Facilitating partnerships between CWCS and NGOs supporting migrants, to create more inclusive spaces for migrant communities.
- Encouraging preferential pricing systems to improve accessibility.







Resilient Cities: Advancing Inclusion Across Cities

After months of dynamic collaboration, the **Policy Labs** in **Clermont-Ferrand** have officially wrapped up, but the momentum continues. These sessions laid the groundwork for ongoing partnerships between **local actors** and **individuals with migration backgrounds**, proving that inclusive policy making is not just an idea; **it's a process in motion**.

Building on this momentum, **the Policy Labs in Lyon are now still running** until the end of March.

Here, our work centers on key areas that directly impact migrant inclusion:

- Strengthening the participation of people with a migration background in the participatory mechanism and public politics of the city
- Facilitating access to municipal services and information
- Promoting access to culture for all and valuing the artistic and cultural practices of people with a migration background.



These efforts build on the foundation set in Clermont-Ferrand, where participants tackled **challenges like language learning**, access to information, and citizen cards for services. Through co-creation and micro-experiments, they **explored practical solutions** to make cities more **accessible**, welcoming, and representative of all who call them home.

With each Policy Lab, we move one step closer to cities that truly reflect the diversity and potential of their residents. Stay tuned as we share updates on the progress made in Lyon and beyond!

Read more about the Resilient Cities mission and for more information, get in touch with our program manager **Selma**.

Youth Voices in Action: ParticipACTION Seminar

Last week, **21 young changemakers came together** for our latest **ParticipACTION** seminar, diving into key topics shaping Europe today including: **migrant rights, gender equality, democracy, and education**. The day sparked powerful discussions, from an interactive debate on migrant voting rights to collaborative reflections on political participation and belonging.

Throughout the seminar, participants explored pressing issues and shared insights on the challenges and opportunities within their communities. The event fostered a space for learning, exchange, and collective action, bringing together youth from Article 1, Ambition Campus, Eureka, and beyond.

Thank you to everyone who joined and contributed to shaping the future of civic participation in Europe, Stay connected and keep the momentum going!



Food for thouth: Hazem Header: The Dreamer Who Dances

By being part of the Emerging Leaders Artivism Alliance, I have realized that I am not alone; witnessing other artists overcome social constraints and create art despite all obstacles gives me more hope to keep going and more strength to fight back and produce more art.

Hazem Header



What does it mean to use art as a tool for resistance? For Hazem
Header, an Egyptian dancer,
choreographer, and founder of NÜT
Dance Company, and Breaking the

<u>Wall Festival</u> it means transforming the stage into a **platform for social change**.

Since founding his company in 2015, Hazem has been challenging artistic censorship and advocating for freedom of expression in Egypt. In a country where protests and speech are heavily restricted, his performances push boundaries; tackling sensitive social issues and creating alternative spaces for artists to share their voices without fear.

Now, as part of the **Emerging Leaders Artivism Alliance 2025**, Hazem has joined a global network of artists using creativity to drive social impact.

Looking Ahead

As we move forward into the year, our commitment to building inclusive narratives and opportunities remains stronger than ever. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey.

See you next month,



PLACE Network







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