

Photo by the3million

Dear fellow EU Citizen,

I am thrilled to be the community organiser leading on EU Voices, a three year project delivered with Fondazione Giacomo Brodolini and co-funded by the European Union. Following from the work of Common Ground we collectively identified a desire for better networking and knowledge-sharing among EU-focused organisations, as well as more effective ways to have our collective voice heard by policymakers. We saw that our communities wanted more connected capacity building support on fundraising, inclusion, communications, and organising strategies.

EU Voices addresses these desires and is rooted in the spirit of collective strength, built upon a collective voice. Our work together will develop networks of solidarity among EU communities, protect citizens' rights, and strengthen civil society organisations in supporting a more connected, informed, and robust European civil society in the United Kingdom. I eagerly anticipate meeting many of you over the coming months as we grow our collective voice!

Along with a varied programme of activities, EU Voices offers a grant funding opportunity for small and medium organisations. You can find information about the grants and the **expression of interest for EU Voices grant funding here.**

We are hosting a Grant Funding information and learning session on Friday 22nd May, 10am, via Zoom

Register here

Over the past six years, before joining the3million, my work has focused on developing policy and partnership strategies for Central and Eastern European migrant-focused not-for-profits in the Midlands. I worked with local governments on community cohesion policy, in making sure diverse groups have platforms for engagement. This background has shaped my outlook on how I want to support our sector through EU Voices. I look forward to collaborating with EU-citizen focused organisations from across the country, in deepening our civic engagement, supporting important frontline service delivery, and organising campaigns to win greater representation together. I will have much to listen and learn from you and I look forward to doing this as soon as possible.

As the ten year anniversary since the Brexit referendum will pass this June, the fraught political climate has not dissipated. In 2015 the spotlight was on my own demographic, the often monolithic and stereotyped "Eastern European economic migrant". The association with this catch-all term, often used interchangeably with others in anti-immigration discourse; is an ever-shifting target. It spotlights different groups in re-defining delineations of belonging, in moving goalposts on integration and cohesion. Through EU voices I look forward to working with you, EU citizens, in making sure we agitate for a more compassionate and connected British society, for those who migrated across borders, and those born here, our voice is louder together.

To find out more about various strands of the EU Voices project and how you can be involved, book a 1-2-1 with Piotr Kardynal, EU Voices Community Organiser.

Book a 1-2-1 with Piotr

In solidarity,

Piotr

Piotr Kardynal is the3million Community Organiser leading EU Voices

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