During the last five years immigration and refugee flows into Europe have reached unprecedented high numbers, causing social and political upheaval and bringing significant changes in European societies and cultures. European countries are faced with the challenge to respond to requests for integration, humanitarian aid and asylum amidst the worst crisis in decades. A failure to manage the associated consequences in housing, language, work and welfare could pose serious threats to political stability and social cohesion.

Against this background, Intercultural Mediation (IM) undoubtedly provides a vigorous pathway that could lead the involved parties (migrants and host society members) to a win-to-win situation, thus fostering integration and substantially contributing to the establishment of inclusive European societies. Yet, in order to take advantage of the full potential offered by Intercultural Mediation, significant challenges need to be explored.

The conference is the third in a series of events organized by the Hellenic Open University during the past years. It is addressed to researchers and practitioners of IM and associated disciplines, including among others social workers and researchers who interact with immigrants, members of immigrant communities, personnel of educational institutions, training centers, NGOs and voluntary organizations, employees of public administration and local authorities.

The conference will promote exploitation of the results of project TIME (Training Intercultural Mediators for a Multicultural Europe), which was funded under Erasmus+, aiming to identify and discuss challenges, explore possibilities, exchange knowledge on practices and interventions and present successful IM policies. The main topics of the conference include, but are not limited to:

- IM during refugee crisis: needs and policies
- Professional Profile and Common Curricula as catalysts for effective IM services
- IM and the labor market: Accreditation and Code of Conduct
- Technologies in IM: Information technology in the service of IM

The conference programme includes:
- Presentations by TIME project researchers
- Invited lectures by distinguished academics and professionals
- Contributions from Intercultural Mediators
- Policy consultation sessions
- Hands-on Workshops

**Important Dates**
- Poster submission: 15 July 2016
- Notification of acceptance: 31 July 2016
- Early registration: 31 August 2016
- Conference dates: 8-9 September 2016

**More info at** info@daissy.eap.gr

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