Ending the „limbo“ in Europe
Initiative for improved implementation of the rights of the EU citizens residing in another country of the Union

Policy debate
Sofia, May 29, 2015
Matti’d Hall, 1 Bulgaria Boulevard

9:30-10:00 Registration of participants

10:00-11:30 Who are the European citizens “in a limbo” – presentation of the main problems with the unequal implementation of the rights of the EU citizens residing in some of the other EU countries.

*Petko Georgiev, Proinfo foundation*
European Parliament and the rights of the EU citizens

*Svetoslav Malinov, Member of European Parliament*
Want to work in the Netherlands? Here’s what you need to know

*Vesselin Paunov, journalist; representative of the Embassy of The Netherlands in Sofia*
The forthcoming UK Referendum: what’s at stake for the Bulgarians residing in the EU

*Eva Paunova, Member of European Parliament*
The Bulgarian Roma in Europe – a view from home

*Angel Dzhambazki, Member of European Parliament*
European Parliament and the rights of the EU citizens

Discussion

11:30-11:45 Coffee break

11:45-12:30 European citizen rights – a view from Europe
Panelists:

*Claire Damilano*, senior legal manager at ECAS European Citizen Action Service, manager of Your Europe Advice

In current EU jargon “in a limbo” refers to EU citizens residing in another EU member state but unable to realize their rights as European citizens because of various administrative, financial or political hurdles.
Lora Ivanova, representative of the Bulgarian students’ community in Austria
Aida Barquero, Fundación Ciudadanía, Spain;
Violeta Atanassova, president of “Asociación búlgara de integración y ayuda”, A.B.I.A.
Danubio
Blerina Guga, Partners Albania, Center for Change and Conflict Management, Albania
Moderator: Petko Georgiev, ProInfo

12:30-13:30 Lunch break
13:30-15:00 Discussion – an initiative to overcome different treatment of EU citizens residing in another EU members state, selecting the next steps, discussion and approval of the text of the policy initiative.
15:00-15:30 Summary of the discussion, conclusions next steps, closing the debate.

The debate is a part of the project From Citizen Involvement to Policy Impact funded under the Europe for Citizens Program of the European Commission. Partners of the project are non-profit organizations active in promoting citizens’ participation at European level from Albania, Belgium, Cyprus, France, Estonia, Italy, Romania, Spain, and Bulgaria.