



## **Intercultural Dialogue Bench**

2025-10-23

**On 25 September, at the Multicultural Center in Zabłocie, the Mayor of Kraków, Aleksander Miszalski, met with foreign residents of the city and representatives of organizations supporting national minorities. The meeting was also attended by Deputy Mayor Maria Klaman and Adam Spyra, Director of the Department for Foreigners at the Małopolska Provincial Office.**

This was the second edition of the *Intercultural Dialogue Bench*. The first meeting had been dedicated to Ukrainians, the largest minority group in Kraków.

In his opening remarks, Mayor Miszalski emphasized that Kraków, the capital of Małopolska, is a multicultural city—open, safe, and welcoming to everyone. He noted that the thriving Multicultural Center and the *Open Kraków* program are proof of this commitment.

During the discussion, participants raised questions and made proposals on issues such as education, urban infrastructure, and health care. Some topics require consultation with state administration representatives, since the city does not directly oversee, for example, hospital emergency rooms or the police. To ensure inclusivity, participants could also submit questions by email, with the assurance that all inquiries will be answered.

Mayor Miszalski and Deputy Mayor Klaman encouraged participants to submit their requests and ideas to the Kraków Contact Center and to make use of the wide range of services offered by the Multicultural Center, available to international community of Kraków.

The meeting brought together many foreigners, including long-term residents who live in Kraków with their families. They praised the city as a great place to live and expressed appreciation for the *Intercultural Dialogue Bench* initiative, which makes them feel recognized by the local authorities and confident that their concerns will be heard and addressed. The Mayor's declaration to continue these meetings was met with enthusiasm.