



Urban Regeneration: European Network of Towns

TERRITORIAL ANALYSIS

BARCELONA, SPAIN

Fundación Indera



FUNDACIÓN INDERA





Research conducted by Fundación Indera

Martínez Galindo, Lorena

Montesinos Sánchez-Elvira, María

Müller, Kristina

Zamora Torroja, Lucas



BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

This territorial analysis is part of the URGENT Project co-financed by the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union. URGENT is a two-year project led by ALDA – the European Association for Local Democracy (France), and involving 12 other European partners. The aim of this territorial analysis is to introduce the context and characteristics of the target area chosen by each project partner to implement its pilot projects in the framework of the local path of the project.

Reuniting three local authorities, four associations of local authorities, four civil society organisations, an academic institution and a foundation, the main objective of the URGENT project is to improve social cohesion in local communities by promoting migrants' integration through the development of urban policies fostering intercultural dialogue and the use of common spaces. Implemented from September 2016 to August 2018, the URGENT project focuses on “local paths” implemented in one city per each partner country (except in Italy, where activities take place in two cities). During these local paths the cities get familiar with migration issues at local level in order to then elaborate pilot project ideas for intercultural dialogue in deprived and conflicting areas and finally implement these pilot projects on the ground. In between the three phases of the local paths, international events are organised in different countries for partner cities to compare their situation, share problems and potential solutions.

There are four main objectives in the URGENT project:

Objective 1: To create spaces of discussion and mutual learning among citizens from different socio-cultural backgrounds and from different countries of Europe.

Objective 2: To foster active citizenship and co-creation of policies and services in local societies, particularly for citizens who are often excluded from the decision-making processes.

Objective 3: To enhance the capacity of local institutions to be “multipliers” in their own communities in order to engage a wide range of stakeholders.

Objective 4: To provide a new impetus to the EU enlargement process, contributing to the establishment of a long-lasting thematic network of cities that are strongly active and committed as key players in Europe.

Leading partner: ALDA – the European Association for Local Democracy – France

Project partners:

SSIIM Unesco Chair, Iuav University of Venice - Italy

Local Democracy Agency Mostar – Bosnia and Herzegovina

Association of Albanian Municipalities – Albania

SPES – Associazione Promozione e Solidarietà – Italy

SOS Malta – Solidarity Overseas Service – Malta

Fundación Privada Indera – Spain

Municipality of Kumanovo – Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Amphictyony – Greece

Kallipolis – Italy

Rede DLBC Lisboa – Portugal

City of Strasbourg – France

Municipality of Novo Mesto - Slovenia



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METHODOLOGY

We conducted our research combining primary and secondary data. Secondary data:

- Review of the statistical data regarding migration in Barcelona and the Barrio del Raval. We mainly used data from the Ajuntament de Barcelona and the ACSAR Foundation.
- Review of the existing literature: we collected qualitative and quantitative data regarding the main transformations of the Barrio del Raval in recent years, analysing it and screening the data useful to our investigation.
- Review of different reports: we collected qualitative and quantitative information about migration and different issues that could be useful to understand its dynamics and nature, like health or education.
- Review of public policies implemented by the city council aimed at solving structural problems in the Barrio del Raval and addressing migration issues.

Primary data:

- Non-participant observations in different public spaces. We chose the kind of public spaces in which interaction between communities was more likely: 2 day-care centres, 3 schools, 2 health centres, 4 parks/squares, 2 libraries. We also did observations in other spaces, like bars, cafeterias and stores.
- Interviews with social workers, academics, and migrants: Lorenzo Gabrielli, assistant professor in Universitat Pompeu Fabra; Fátima Ahmed, president of Diàlegs de Dona; Daniel Ibarz, director of Bayt al-Thaqafa Foundation; Nájat Ben Moussa and her sister Socaina Ben Moussa, migrants and social worker; Clarissa Veloci, from Genera Association in Defense of Women Rights; Sanzida Biswas Akther, health worker.

We took a methodological approach based on gender perspective. Gender-specific migration research is necessary to understand the different outcomes for men and women, thus understand the Practical Gender Needs and Strategic Gender Interests. Gender normalisation must take place in integrative approaches to migration.



CONTEXT: THE CITY OF BARCELONA

Total population of the city

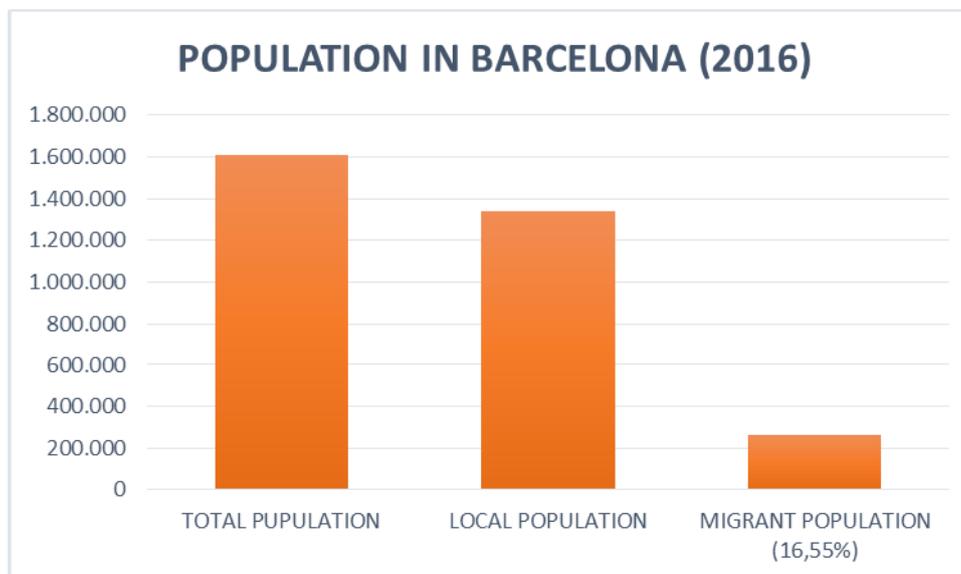
1.608.746 inhabitants

Local population

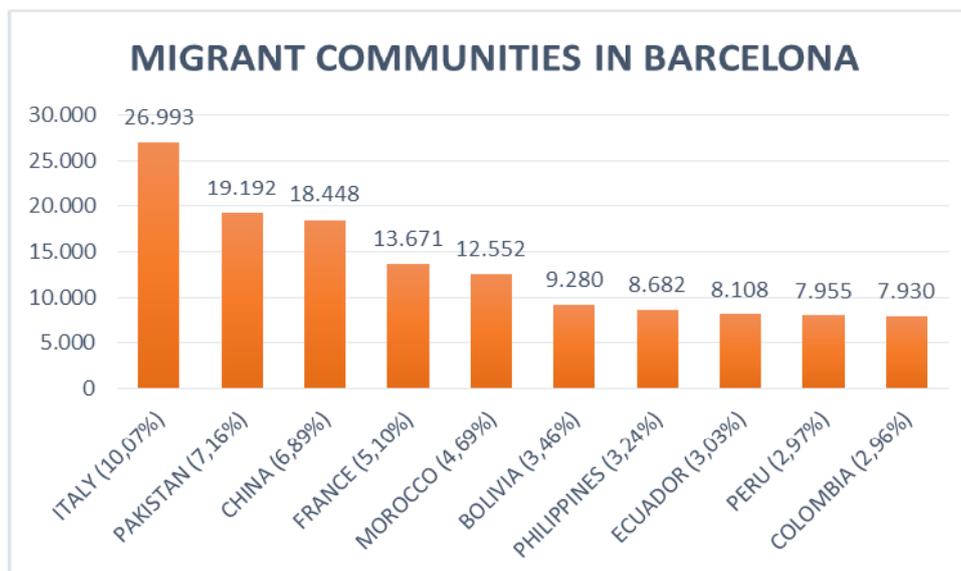
1.342.423 inhabitants

Percentage of migrants on the total population

16,55% (266.323 inhabitants)



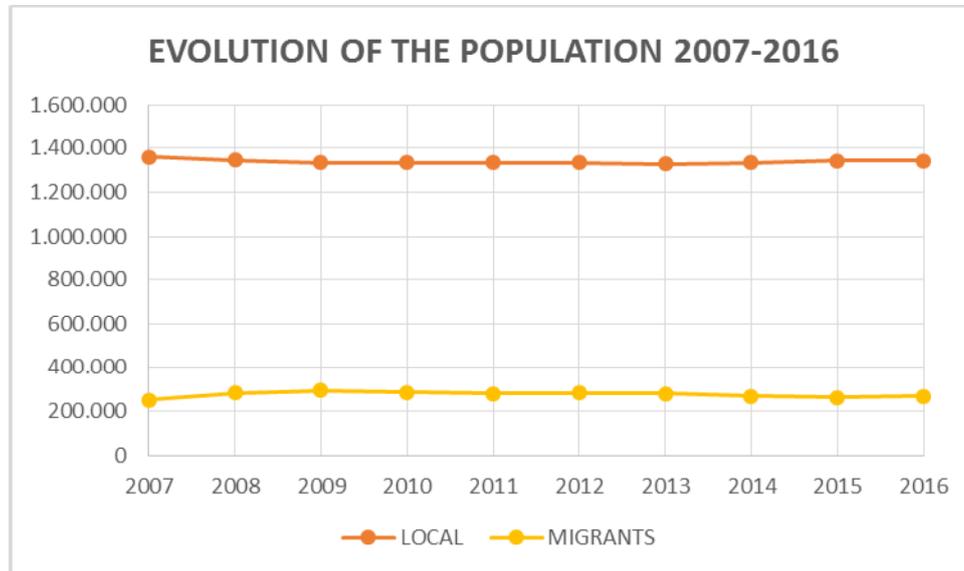
Source: <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/catala/dades/tpob/pad/ine/a2016/nacio/t0101.htm>
(accessed 12.04.2017)



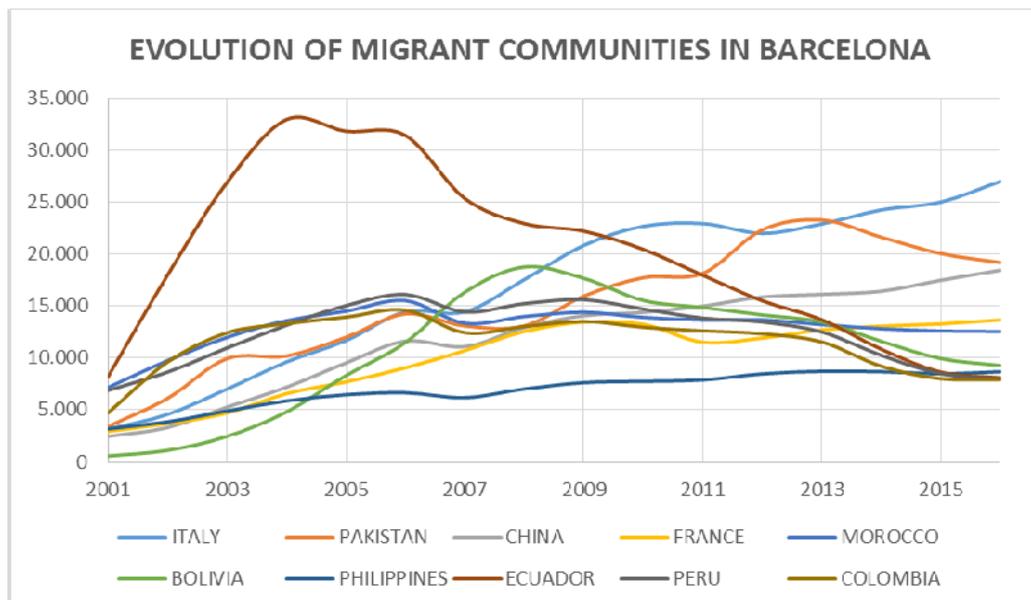
Source: <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/catala/dades/tpob/pad/ine/a2016/nacio/t0101.htm>
(accessed 12.04.2017)

Brief description of migrant population dynamics

Since the end of the 1990's, there's been a significant and sustained growth of migrant population in Barcelona until 2007. From 2007 to 2017, the numbers of migrants in Barcelona have fluctuated between 260.000 and 300.000. Since the beginning of the 2000's, the numbers of native (or non-migrant) people as well has fluctuated between 1.600.000 and 1.630.000.



A few nationalities require special attention because of their relative weight within the migrant community. The number of Pakistanis, for example, increased spectacularly between 2001 and 2005 (from 4236 to 14.741). From that year onwards, this community experienced a sustained but moderate growth, reaching a peak of 24.066 individuals in 2012, a year in which the number of Pakistanis started to drop. The Chinese community has been growing fast as well throughout the first decade of 21st century, and it's still growing -in a more limited proportion- according to the latest register.



Source: <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/catala/dades/inf/pobest/pobest07/pobest07.pdf> and <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/catala/dades/inf/pobest/pobest16/pobest16.pdf>



On the other hand, the Moroccan community, after a peak of 15.640 individuals in 2006, has been constantly declining. Latin American communities, as well as Moroccans, are experiencing a huge drop since 2007-2008. In 2008, there were 18.677 Bolivians, 23.792 Ecuadorians and 15.576 Peruvians. In 2016, none of these communities exceeded the 10.000 members. This huge drop is probably due to the economic crisis that started in 2007.

The huge amount of Italian and French migrants could be explained because of the proliferation of double nationalities (Italian nationality in Latin America, mostly in Argentina, and French nationality in Africa and the Maghreb region).

DESCRIPTION OF THE TARGET AREA: BARRIO DEL RAVAL

The Barrio del Raval is a quarter with a high population density (444 inhabitants per hectare) located in the district of Ciutat Vella, right in the city centre. Although there is more immigration in other areas, like the district of the Eixample, the Barrio del Raval is widely known as the typical “immigrant neighbourhood” of Barcelona because of the origins of its inhabitants, mainly from Asia and Africa, whereas those who live in the Eixample come mostly from western countries.

This categorization of the Raval as an “immigrant neighbourhood” is associated with its image as a dangerous and troubled quarter. The often-problematic social image of the immigrant is translated to the urban space, which is perceived as one with much potential for conflict, and one where harmony and coexistence between communities is difficult.

Along with this image as a troubled quarter, the Raval recently has developed an image as a cosmopolitan and multicultural neighbourhood, an image promoted by the city council in order to boost tourism and investment.

During the last years, the Raval has experienced a resignification of the urban space that refers to the two images mentioned above and that, in turn, is characterized by two main aspects:

- The establishment of community networks by migrant groups. This has modified the urban look by determining the type of shops and business, the proliferation of migrant associations and religious sites, among others. This network, and its material expressions, are widely spread throughout the quarter, avoiding processes of “ghettification”.
- The proliferation of urban reforms was promoted by the city council and aimed to revitalise and secure certain areas of the Raval, which had been perceived as insecure. This has to do with the long history of the Raval, in which, since the beginning of the XX century, the interaction of immigration, prostitution, poverty, drugs and crime has promoted a negative image of it as a dangerous place. In order to revert this image, in the 90s, the city council started a series of urban reforms based on the demolition of old residential buildings and the construction of wider public spaces (e. g. the Rambla del Raval or the Plaça dels Angels) and new buildings dedicated to art and culture (e. g. MACBA) that have completely changed the urban landscape.

This urban remodulation, although positive, has left unattended different social processes:

- There is little offer of social housing for the old and new inhabitants that can't afford to pay for the new houses, whose prizes have been constantly growing.
- There is a huge contrast between the new public spaces and the old residential buildings, whose apartments remain in bad conditions, sometimes over-occupied and with precarious hygienic conditions.

- The “revitalisation” of public areas has promoted the integration of the Raval in the circuits of the massive tourism in which Barcelona is plunging. The Raval, along with the whole district of Ciutat Vella, is one of the main destinations for a type of tourism known in Spanish as *turismo de borrachera* (“binge tourism”). This has profound implications for the inhabitants: a general increase in prizes (in houses as well as in consumption products and basic needs), and a generally expelling environment.

Despite the urban remodelling, there are still profound inequalities compared with the rest of the city. The “Índice de Renta Familiar Disponible per Cápita” (Family Income per Capita Index) is 75,8 (only in 2013 it was 60,3), way below the 100 of the whole city, and the lowest value of all the quarters of the city center¹. In 2015, life expectancy in the Barrio del Raval was 6 years lower than life expectancy in the richest quarters, like Pedralbes². Even within the quarter, there are profound inequalities between the north and the south. The Raval Norte is more integrated with the commercial center of Barcelona, and it is also more dynamic, due to the presence of the University of Barcelona, the MACBA and a lot of cafes, bars, clubs and stores. The life expectancy in the Raval Norte is 73,3 years, while the Raval Sud, less dynamic and less integrated with the rest of the city centre and its environment, has a life expectancy of 69,3 years and, generally, worst socioeconomic, health and exclusion indicators (Vecina et al., 2013).

City Council initiatives

Pla de Veïnatge de Ciutat Vella

The *Pla de Veïnatge* (neighbour plan) presented last February, to be gradually implemented after Easter Week, aims to revitalize the community network of the whole district of Ciutat Vella, of which the Barrio del Raval is a major quarter, and to improve the quality of life of its residents.

One of its pressing objectives is to build public relationships of proximity and private spaces. In order to do that, the plan will be promoting and improving the inclusion and participation of different communities in the neighbourhood. It is understood that an intercultural approach is essential, and that it is necessary to promote diversity to boost social, economic and cultural vitality, rejecting hate speeches and stereotypes. The policies implemented will count on the diverse profiles of the population historically marginalized and excluded from its elaboration, and they will be adapted to every community.

The plan is also aimed at encouraging community initiatives and the neighbouring use of public space, understood as an extension of private space. The breakdown of the public-private dichotomy in the elaboration of policies is a core idea of the plan. It will be implementing projects and policies aimed at improving the communal well-being, assuring a decent housing and fighting against misuse. The idea behind this approach is that a good coexistence in private spaces will affect positively the coexistence in public spaces, and vice versa.

The third main point of the plan is the one regarding nightlife. The plan’s policies will be dedicated to reduce its negative impact on the quality of life of the residents.

¹Estadístiques Ajuntament de Barcelona, in <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/catala/dades/economia/renda/rdfamiliar/evofrbarris.htm> (checked on 08-05-2017)

² “La esperanza de vida en el Raval es seis años menor que en Pedralbes”, *El País*, 22-10-2015 in http://ccaa.elpais.com/ccaa/2015/10/22/catalunya/1445511654_450579.html (checked on 08-05-2017)



Pla de Barris Raval Sud

This plan faces the challenge of reducing inequality within the Barrio del Raval addressing the structural causes that generate it. The plan constitutes a specific set of interventions for the most impoverished area of the Barrio del Raval, the Raval Sud. This is also the area more affected by urban deficiencies.

The plan is constituted by specific interventions that guarantee the participation of the people in their development, either as individuals or as communities or private entities.

The *Pla de Barris Raval Sud* has four main objectives:

1. To recover and boost the economic activity, strengthening the local economy.
2. To address urban deficiencies, the low quality of housing and the lack of equipment, promoting its accessibility and centrality.
3. Interventions to improve the life conditions of the whole population.
4. To empower the neighbours in order for them to establish objectives and interventions aimed at improving collective life, promoting public and private entities participation in the plan itself.

Along with this four objectives, the plan has four main areas of intervention:

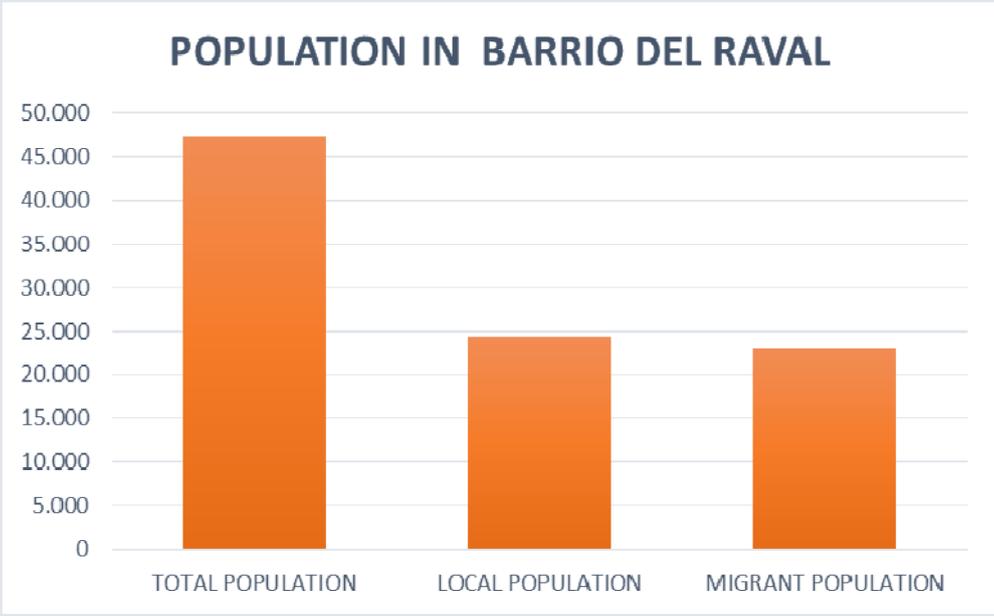
1. Environment: public spaces and green zones, environmental systems and programs, collective access to information technologies, improvement of accessibility...
2. Economic activity: recovery of certain local activities, promotion of social and solidary economy, boosting employment, re-industrialization and promotion of local business and proximity consumption.
3. Social rights: social attention programmes, house equipments, refurbishment of common and shared spaces in residential buildings, gender equity, public health interventions.

Education: school, environment and community, formal education, leisure education.

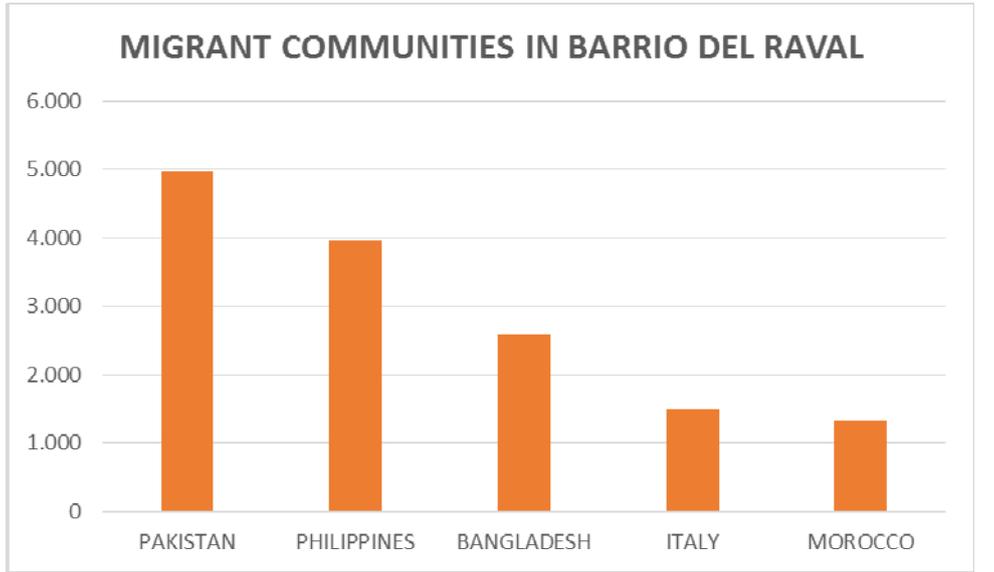


MIGRANT POPULATION IN THE BARRIO DEL RAVAL

Dimension: 1,1 km²
Total population: 47.274 hab.
Migrant population: 22.929 hab.



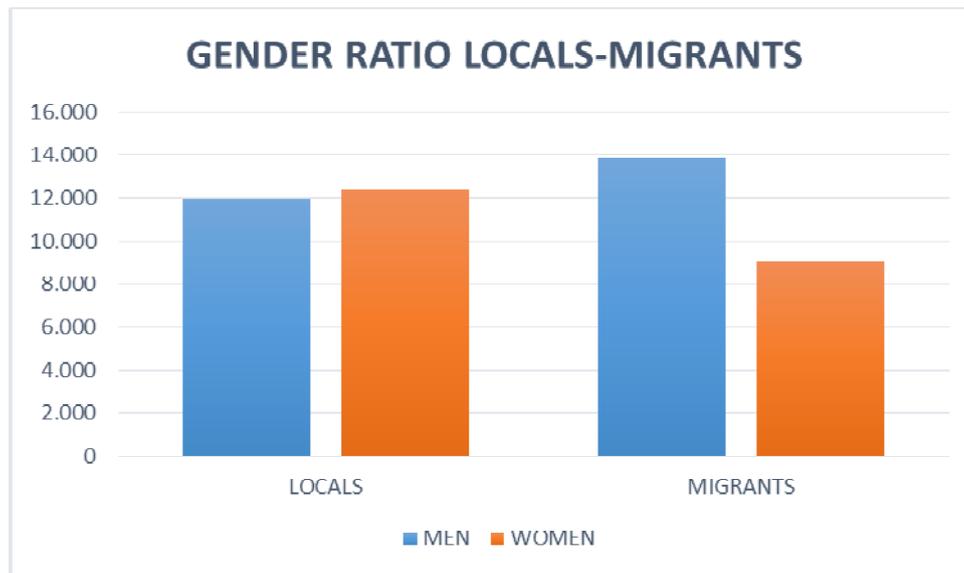
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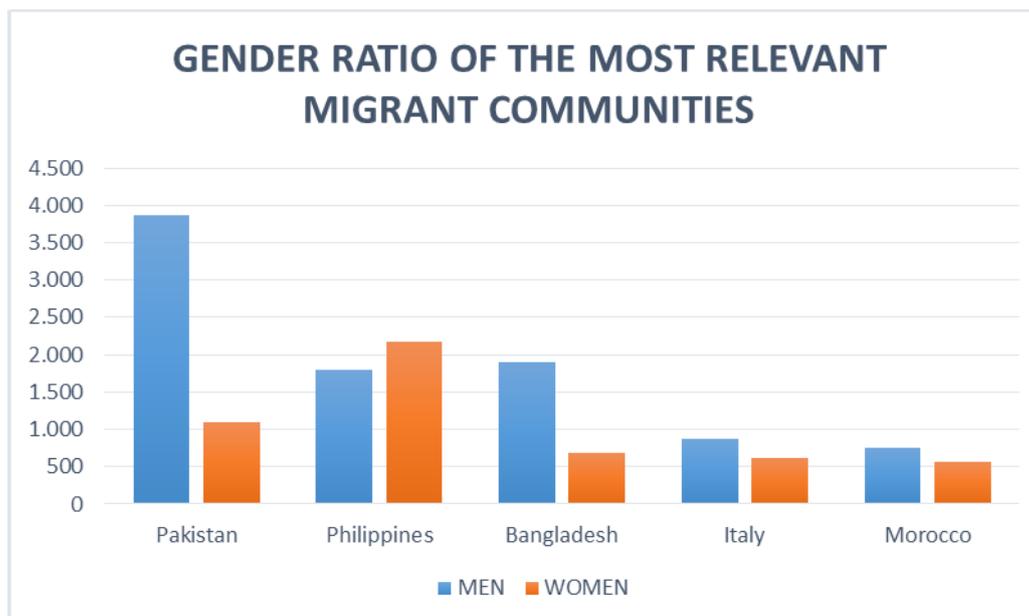
Source: <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/catala/dades/inf/pobest/pobest16/pobest16.pdf> (2016)



Gender ratio statistics



Source: <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/catala/dades/inf/pobest/pobest16/pobest16.pdf> (2016) and <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/castella/dades/tpob/pad/padro/a2016/nacio/index.htm> (2016)



Source: <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/castella/dades/tpob/pad/padro/a2016/nacio/index.htm> (2016) (accessed 18.04.2017)

It is interesting to notice how the Pilipino community breaks the general trend on gender ratio of migrant communities. This is due to the nature of the Pilipino migration, historically associated with domestic labour and caring services.



Ageing index statistics

COUNTRY	AGEING INDEX
PAKISTAN	4,24/100
PHILIPPINES	25,03/100
BANGLADESH	4,00/100
MOROCCO	21,15/100
SPAIN	162,61/100

Source: <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/catala/dades/inf/pobest/pobest16/pobest16.pdf>
and <http://www.bcn.cat/estadistica/castella/dades/tpob/pad/padro/a2016/nacio/na08.htm>
(accessed 18.04.2017)

The data used to fill this chart refers to the ageing index of migrant communities in the city of Barcelona as a whole, and it is calculated with the number of persons 65 years old or over per hundred persons under age 15. There is no data available for the Barrio del Raval.

Main religious groups

There is no available data regarding the main religious groups. However, the proliferation of religious spaces is a significant indicator. In the Barrio del Raval we count at least 22 temples, classified as follows:

TEMPLES	Nº	%
Catholic churches	11	50%
Protestant churches	5	22,72%
Orthodox churches	1	4,54%
Mosques	4	18,18%
Sikh temples	1	4,54%
TOTAL	22	100%

The huge number of catholic churches can be explained because of the catholic tradition of the Barrio del Raval and of Barcelona as a whole.

The Muslim population presents a majority within communities from Pakistan and Morocco, but there is a significant presence of migrants from Bangladesh (Vecina *et al.*, 2013). There is no data available regarding the creed.

The proliferation of protestant churches is associated with Pilipino and Latin American communities, as well as with the expansion of Pentecostalism among gipsy communities.

There are Hindu and Sikhs minorities amongst the communities from Pakistan and Bangladesh.



INTERACTIONS AND MUTUAL PERCEPTION

In Ciutat Vella, the city centre district of which the Raval forms a major part, there is a long-standing migration culture, and therefore a high degree of acceptance. Thus, the Raval is perceived mostly as a secure neighbourhood for migrant communities, but a little insecure for natives.

There is little interaction among different communities. We could observe that when there is some sort of interaction between migrant communities or between migrants and natives, it was usually related to some sort of job/work: street vending, attending a bar, shopping, etc. We could also observe that some sort of casual interaction takes place when there is an ongoing activity in a public space, like skating or basketball. It is important to mention, that there exist gender differences as to the public places. The public spaces of the Raval are mostly occupied by men, whereas women are relegated to the domestic sphere and in general, a male participation in public spaces seems to be of more obvious character.

Another aspect to be considered regarding perception, interaction and use of public space, is a continuity between the social role assigned to women in their countries of origin and their role in the country of destination. Women experience more the rigidity of cultural traditions. Although there are restrictions for both men and women regarding their interaction with other collectives, it is easy for men to make friends or, at least, interact with people from other communities, whereas women must relate exclusively with men and women from their groups, because of the respect to their family. We could also observe that women are mainly in charge of their children in public spaces like school, day-care centres and parks.

In spaces like schools and day-care centres, interaction between different groups of children and young adults takes place. From the interviews, we found that it is in these kind of public/cultural spaces, like schools, where most interaction between different communities takes place, especially for children and youngsters, but also for the parents. While the parents were mainly women, there was no prevailing sex amongst the youngsters and children. After leaving school, the different groups, however, will separate again into their groups of origin.

This is not necessarily negative, considering that in order to feel comfortable and safe a person will relate to the people that s/he has more in common with. Especially when the main barrier to interact is the language: not knowing Spanish makes it difficult to interact and to participate in the social life of the neighbourhood and aggravates the vulnerability with regards to natives and institutions.

Some problems can arise between communities regarding the use of public space due to the often-informal commercial services, but these are not due to cultural suspicions on the other communities. The problem is that due to this long term non-interaction it's easy to have prejudices that determine perceptions of other communities and generate further problems. One of the most stigmatized community is the Moroccan one, which turns to be the most vulnerable because of the main socio-economic condition of its members. It is often perceived as a dangerous community whose majority of members are violent and prone to steal. This can be explained because of the background of the different migrant communities. Whereas migrants from Pakistan or Bangladesh come from a middle-class condition, people from Morocco (and, generally, the Maghreb) belong to poorer classes.

For all these reasons, we understand the necessity to have a look beyond nationalities and consider social class and sex (gender) disaggregated information, in order to address the different perceptions between different communities. This idea was reinforced by the observations made in some public spaces that were a little isolated from the social dynamics of the quarter, where a lot of interaction was observed between people from different nationalities (natives, Europeans, sub-Saharan Africans and Moroccans) that seemed to be very poor, almost marginal, most of them living and sleeping in the streets.



SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Public social services

- Centre de Serveis Socials Raval Sud – Drassanes: Equip d'Atenció a la Infància i Adolescència de Ciutat Vella – Raval Sud: assessment, intervention and attention to children in abandonment or neglect situation, and monitoring on their families.
- Centre de Serveis Socials Raval Nord – Erasme de Janer: basic social attention to individuals and families, and specific service on pre-school education.
- Associació d'Ajuda Mutua d'Immigrants a Catalunya: legal support and advice on immigration issues, labour orientation and support, educational and training orientation, housing-access information. Target: migrants.

Health centres

- Centro de Atención Primaria Drassanes – Raval Sud: primary assistance, rehabilitation, STD treatment, prevention and control of tuberculosis, attention to sexual and reproductive health, paediatrics.
- Centro de Atención Primaria Doctor Lluís Sayé – Raval Nord: primary assistance, sexual and reproductive health.

Associations, migrant associations, CBOs, NGOs, social enterprises and informal groups working in the social and health field

There is a lot of associations working in the neighbourhood, so we made a selection of the most relevant ones.

- Fundació Ibn-Batuta: cultural, educational, occupational and social support. Programs on childhood and youth, women and human rights, employment and social economy, cultural dissemination and diversity, education on language and training, elderly. Target: migrant population, specially Moroccans.
- SOS Racisme: support for victims of racial discrimination, sensibilization on racism and services for treating racial discrimination and racism. Denunciation service. Target: migrant population.
- Terral – Raval en Acció: socioeducational support and resources for laboral insertion and social integration. Target: young migrants and migrant women
- Casal dels Infants del Raval – Esplai 8 – Casal Jove Atlas: social support for children, teenagers and families; school support; services for social integration; workshops

Public kitchen

- Menjador Reina de la Paz

Outreach services

- El lloc de la Dona – Oblates: advice and sensibilisation on prostitution. Target: women and sex workers.
- Associació Redes: social insertion and prisoner integration
- Associació Ciutadana Anti-SIDA de Catalunya: support for AIDS patients; sensibilization on AIDS and other STDs; free AIDS test. Target: AIDS patients and their families.
- Comissió Catalana d'Ajuda al Refugiat



CULTURAL, EDUCATION AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Parks, squares, public spaces

- *Jardins de Sant Pau del Camp*
- *Rambla del Raval*
- *Plaça dels Àngels*
- *Jardins del Baluard*
- *Jardins de les Voltes dels Cirés*
- *Plaça de Sant Josep*
- *Plaça de Vicenç Martorell*
- *Plaça de Castella*
- *Plaça de les Caramelles*
- *Plaça d'Emili Vendrell*
- *Jardins de Rubió i Lluch*
- *Plaça del Pes de la Palla*
- *Plaça de Sant Agustí*
- *Jardins de Dolores Ateu*
- *Plaça del Canonge Colom*

Cultural centres

Libraries and documentation centres

- *Asociación de Profesores Rosa Sensat*
- *Biblioteca – Facultad de Comunicación Blanquerna7*
- *Biblioteca Nacional de Catalunya*
- *Biblioteca Sant Pau – Santa Creu*
- *Biblioteca de Filosofía, Geografía e Historia de la Universidad de Barcelona*
- *Centro de Estudios y Documentación Internacionales (CIDOB)*
- *Institut Català de les Dones (ICD)*

Cultural associations

- *Fundació Àngela Bagués*
- *Associació Cultural Arco de la Virgen*
- *Associació Cultural Gitana de La Cera*
- *Associació Cultural La Ciutat de les Paraules*
- *Associació Cultural Sant Joan entre Dos Pobles*
- *Associació Eix de Cultura Emergent*
- *Associació Intercultural Punt Comú*
- *Associació Socio-cultural Punt d'Intercanvi*
- *Centre Cívic Drassanes*
- *Centre Boliviano Catalán*
- *Centro Galego de Barcelona*
- *Centre Islàmic Camí de la Pau – Erasme de Janer*



- *Centre d'Informació i Serveis a l'Estudiant de Catalunya (CISEC)*
- *Consell Islàmic Cultural de Catalunya (CICC)*
- *Cooperativa Impulsem – SCC*
- *Fundació Mercè Rodoreda*
- *Fundació Romea para las Artes Escénicas*
- *Fundació Servei Solidari*
- *Fundació Tot Raval*
- *RavalNet – La Xarxa Ciutadana del Raval*

Churches and religious spaces

Catholicism

- *Església Sant Antoni Abat*
- *Església de Santa Maria de Montalegre*
- *Parròquia de Sant Pere Nolasc*
- *Parròquia Mare de Déu del Carme*
- *Parròquia de Sant Agustí*
- *Parròquia de la Mare de Déu de Betlem*
- *Parròquia de Sant Pau*
- *Pontificia Real Hermandad Nuestro Padre Jesús del Gran Poder y Maria Stma. de la Esperanza Macarena*
- *Parròquia de Sant Josep – Santa Mònica*
- *Parròquia de la Inmaculada Concepció i Sant Lorenzo Ruiz*
- *Capella Sant Llatzer*

Protestantism

- *Església Evangèlica Equatoriana – Unidos en Cristo*
- *Església Evangèlica Cristo Viene*
- *Església Evangèlica de Catalunya*
- *Església Evangèlica de Filadelfia*
- *Església Evangèlica Jesus is Lord*

Orthodox

- *Comunitat ucraïneas de ritu greco-catòlic*



Islam

- *Mezquita Madni*
- *Mezquita Tarek Ibn Ziad*
- *Mezquita Baba Jalal Shah*
- *Mezquita Camí de la Pau*

Sikhism

- *Temple Sikh Gurdwara Guru Darshan Sahib*

Schools

Pre-school

- Escola Bressol Municipal Canigó (EBM)
- Llar d'Infants Omicron
- Escola Bressol Municipal Cadí (EBM)

Primary Education

- CEIP Castella
- CEIP Milà i Fontanals
- CEIP Drassanes
- CEIP Collaso i Gil
- CEIP Rubén Darío

Secondary School

- IES Milà i Fontanals
- IES Miquel Tarradell

Adult Education

- Centre Municipal de Formació de Persones Adultes Francesc Layret
- Centre de Formació de Adultes STUCOM
- Centre de Formació de Adultes UNI-TEC



COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Markets

- *Mercat de la Boqueria*

The “Mercat de la Boqueria” is a tourist-oriented market, which implies that it is too expensive for regular shopping.

Ethnic shops

The target area is an ethnic oriented area concerning the commercial activities. Because of the massive migration in the area, the Barrio del Raval had experienced a large proliferation of ethnic shops in the last years. Several shops combine the ethnic feature with regular products

HOUSING

Number of public houses

- Social rental housing
 - o 330 apartments from the social protection council estate
 - o 5 apartments from the empty house cession program
 - o 2 apartments from the usufruct agreement with SAREB (Sociedad de Gestión de Activos procedentes de la Reestructuración Bancaria)
- Official Protection housing
 - o 1521 apartments

Social housing projects

- 3 estates in Carrer d'en Robador (15, 5 and 25 apartments)
- Recent acquisition in Carrer Botella

Key actors providing help in access to housing

- *Oficina de l'Habitatge de Ciutat Vella* (city council service)
- *Obra Social de la Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca (PAH) – Assemblea Raval*

Migrants in risk of social exclusion are often beneficiaries of the social housing programs. However, two main problems arise regarding this issue:

- To have access to this program it's necessary to be in a regular situation, and not all migrants are. Often, those who have not legal papers are the most vulnerable.
- The programs of social renting and official protection housing are collapsed because of the massive request in last years.



ACCESSIBILITY TO/FROM THE TARGET AREA

Physical barriers isolating the area (i.e. railways track, big streets etc.)

None

List of public transport serving the area

- Bus line 120 (3 stops)
- Metro station: Drassanes
- Metro stations surrounding the neighbourhood: Liceu, Catalunya, Universitat, Parallel, Sant Antoni

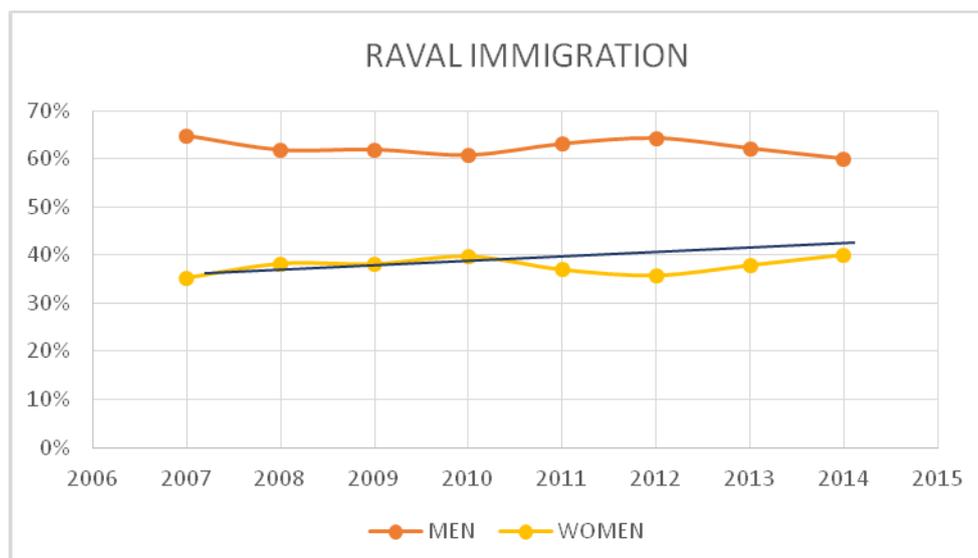
The area is a central one. Even though it's not well equipped with transportation services inside the neighbourhood (due to the narrowness of its streets), in virtue of its centrality it is surrounded by other areas which have metro stations and bus stops that are easily reachable from the target area.

OUR PERSPECTIVE: WOMEN AND MIGRATION

Why do we want to add a gender perspective to this investigation?

While traditionally migration experiences have been rather associated with the male gender, there has been an increasing role of women within the migration phenomenon. Migration is often seen as gender-neutral because it deals with the process of the movement of persons, however, it is in fact gender-related because migration has a different impact on men and women in their process of movement. Therefore, we would like to highlight some forms of discrimination and violence some of these women have experienced - for being an immigrant and a woman.

In our case study of the Raval, there has been a slight increase in the number of women immigrating.



Those women have migrated for different reasons: amongst others they have followed their husbands and/or other family members, as heads of a household they migrate for economic reasons, or they have fled their home countries for political instability.

Migrant women of the Raval often assume an invisible role in the society. From our studies we conducted that especially women, who have followed their husbands to Barcelona, find themselves in a very vulnerable situation of invisibility. They come to an unknown context, a different culture, a different language and a place where they usually do not know anyone. There exists few or no nexus between these women and institutional organisation, and little has been done on public level to support integrative processes.

From our interviews we have conducted that especially for muslim women it becomes an issue, when expressing their religious culture, such as wearing a Hijab at work. They have experienced stigmatization and discrimination in connection with wearing their Hijab, and to some extent have been advised not to wear it at work. Further, women coming to Barcelona, and especially in case of illegal status, they work in domestic areas, exposed to exploitive behaviour or even abuse. Yet it remains difficult to obtain reliable data when referring to facts that take place in a context of invisibility and of submerged economies.

Prostitution and gender violence

The Spanish penal code states, that prostitution itself is not an illegal act if executed on a voluntary base of an adult person (see codigo penal Artcl.178-194).

In 2008 Barcelona has passed a city ordinance that sanctions and fines prostitution in the streets. There exist filed complains against institutional violence, where authority figures have used the ordinance act to discriminate the women in public spaces, thereby establishing an image for other civilian, that it is “ok” to do so. Going after the prostitutes and fining their activities has not decreased the activity, but lead to a shift of the act. Existing tensions between neighbours and prostitutes have contributed to prejudices and stereotypes against migrant women, and have lead to further discrimination. Migrant women are exposed to multiple forms of discrimination – especially when they are women, migrants and prostitutes. Restrictive immigration policies, as well as the non-recognition of prostitution as a working activity and the strong social stigma that goes with it, has increased the vulnerability and the possibility of abuse against these women

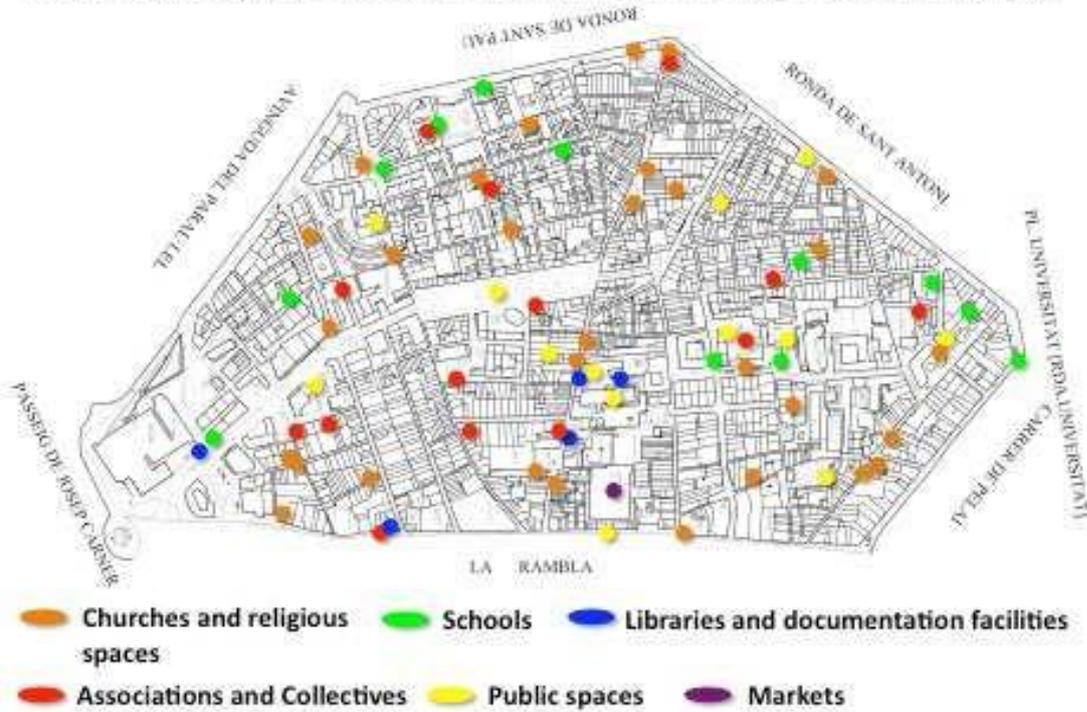


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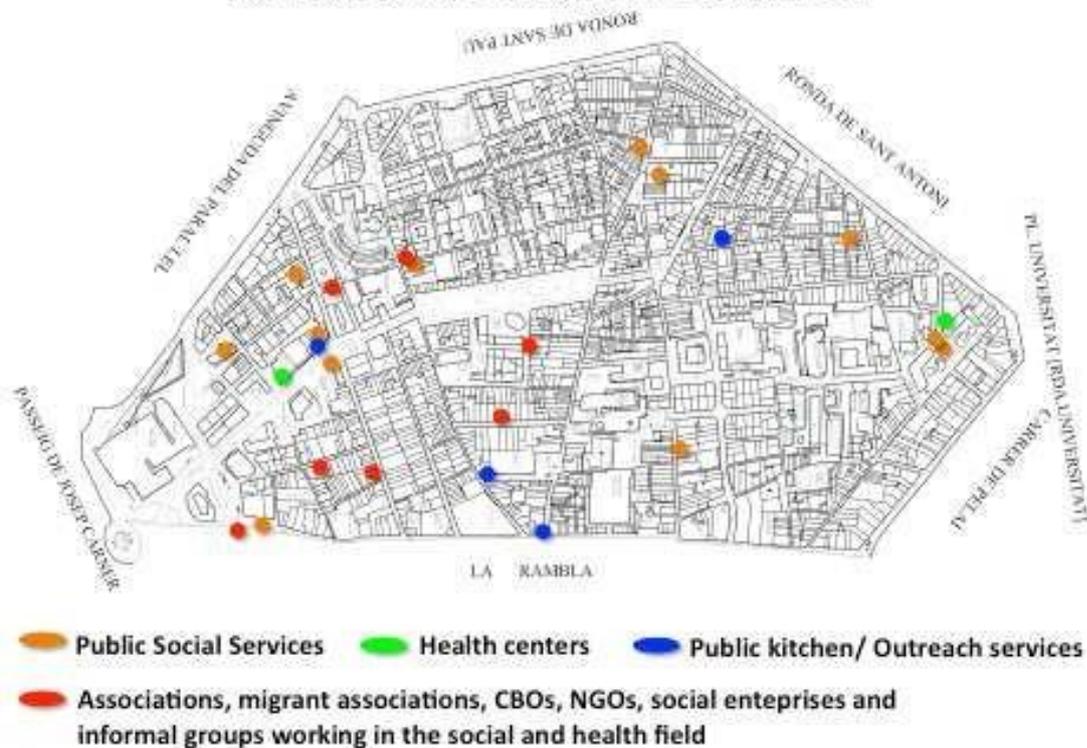
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APPENDIX

CULTURAL, EDUCATION AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES



SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES



This territorial analysis is the result of the European Project URGENT, led by a consortium of 13 partner organisations established in 10 countries, with the support of the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union, from September 2016 to August 2018. The project aims at improving social cohesion in local communities by promoting migrants' integration through the development of urban policies fostering intercultural dialogue and the use of common spaces.

For more information, please contact URGENT partners:

ALDA – the European Association for Local Democracy – France, Project coordinator
SSIIM Unesco Chair, Iuav University of Venice - Italy
Local Democracy Agency Mostar – Bosnia and Herzegovina
Association of Albanian Municipalities – Albania
SPES – Associazione Promozione e Solidarietà – Italy
SOS Malta – Solidarity Overseas Service – Malta
Fundación Privada Indera – Spain
Municipality of Kumanovo – Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Amphictyony – Greece
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