

## Diaspora in the Focus: bilateral relations & international cooperation

### Event overview

The event, based on the policy brief 'Understanding the Romanian Diaspora in Switzerland: The missing link', aims at bringing together communities of practice and expertise to explore the role of diasporas in solidifying bilateral relations and international cooperation. Also, it provides a platform to share best practices and pinpoint mapping toolkits to be used in monitoring and analysing the global phenomenon of migration and diasporas.

The Diaspora Initiative researchers bring to the fore an integrated toolkit that enables an in-depth profiling of diasporic communities, tackling demography, associative patterns through Social Network Analysis, the impact and geographical scope of cooperation as well as diaspora governance. The research, grounded and context-sensitive, is informed by hundreds of hours of fieldwork, semi-structured interviews, focus groups, archival research, and embedded participation. By measuring and visualising the impact of diasporas the report aims to inform policy/decision-making, as well as the long-term outlook of diaspora organisations, through strategic partnerships.

### Aims & objectives of the event

- Shape foreign policy by enabling new voices in the public discourse
- Shape good governance through an influential diaspora at home and abroad
- Explore the role of diasporas in bilateral relations and international cooperation.
- Display diaspora mapping toolkit (i.e. Romanian and Irish diasporas).
- Understand diasporas' engagement, resources, practices, needs, and concerns.
- Impart knowledge, peer learning, and an informed debate regarding diasporas.
- Contribute to the development of a robust and durable bilateral and international cooperation framework.
- Maximise the overall diaspora contribution in a foreign policy setting, focusing on cohesion contributions.

### Structure

1st Session: Introductory remarks & Presentations of Diaspora toolkits case studies (1h)

2nd Session: Expert Round table & Discussion (45 min)

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