

**NEST PROJECT:
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF
THE COLLECTED DATA.**





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POLICIES IMPLEMENTED AT LOCAL/REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL

This analysis aims to compare the different policies that are implemented by the following EU-Member States : Italy, Spain, Sweden and Slovenia, but also at the European level. Indeed, we will focus on the way these countries deal with their demographic realities and how they organize newcomers' social and economical inclusion and integration.

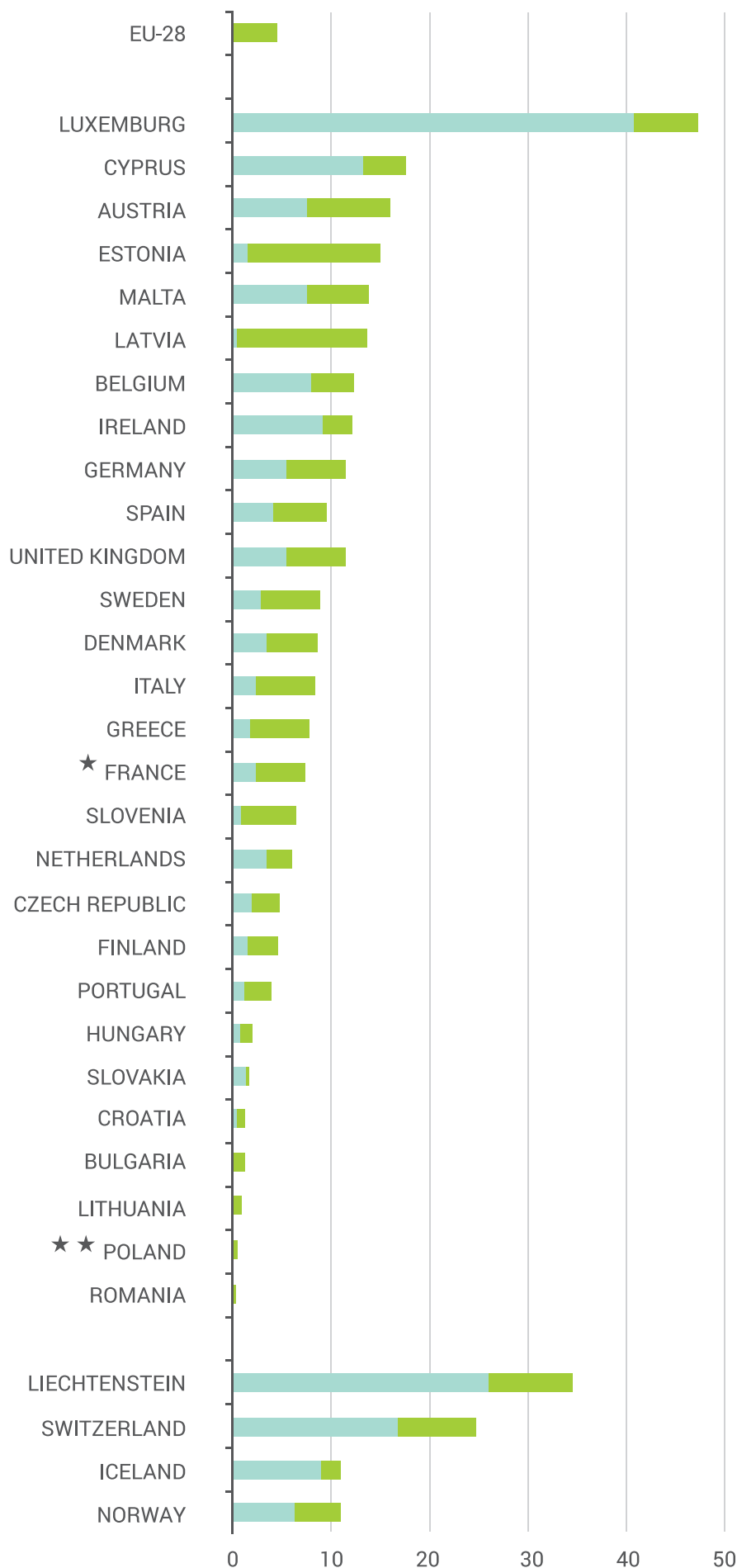
We will present in the first part the flow of third-national people living in EU-countries, whether they are asylum seekers or refugees and explain the different terminologies that will be used throughout this document. Also, we will present which nationalities tend to apply for asylum in these Member States. Finally, we will look at the policies that are implemented concerning job, health and social activities, among others.

In the second part, we will present the strategies and tools developed by each organization in the field of social and economical integration of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection.

Number of foreigners in EU Member States.

In 2018, the number of people residing in European Union Member States with citizenship of a non-member country was 22.3 million, which represents 4.4% of the EU population. Regarding citizens coming from another EU Member State, 17.6 million people were living in one of the EU country. It shows that the majority of non-nationals were citizens of non-EU countries, as presented on the graph below.

Share of non-nationals in the resident population, 1 january 2018



 CITIZENS OF NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES

 CITIZENS OF OTHER EU MEMBER STATES

★ PROVISIONAL

★ ★ ESTIMATE

TERMINOLOGIES AND DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROTECTION

Asylum seeker

According to the European Commission, two definitions can be given, depending on the context.

Indeed, in the global context, « an asylum seeker is a person who seeks protection from persecution or serious harm in a country other than their own and awaits a decision on the application for refugee status under relevant international and national instruments ».

In the EU context, an asylum seeker is a third-country national or a stateless person who applied for protection under the Geneva Refugee Convention and Protocol in respect of which a final decision has not yet been taken.

Refugees

A refugee, according to the Geneva Refugee Convention, is someone who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin, due to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of religion, race, nationality, membership of a particular group, or political opinion.

It can also be the case of a stateless person who, being outside of the country of former residence is unable to return to it, due to such fear and/or danger.

The Geneva Refugee Convention

The 1951 Refugee Convention is the key legal document that defines the term « refugee » and outlines the rights of the displaced, as well as the legal obligations of States to protect them. It was ratified by 145 State parties.

Subsidiary Protection

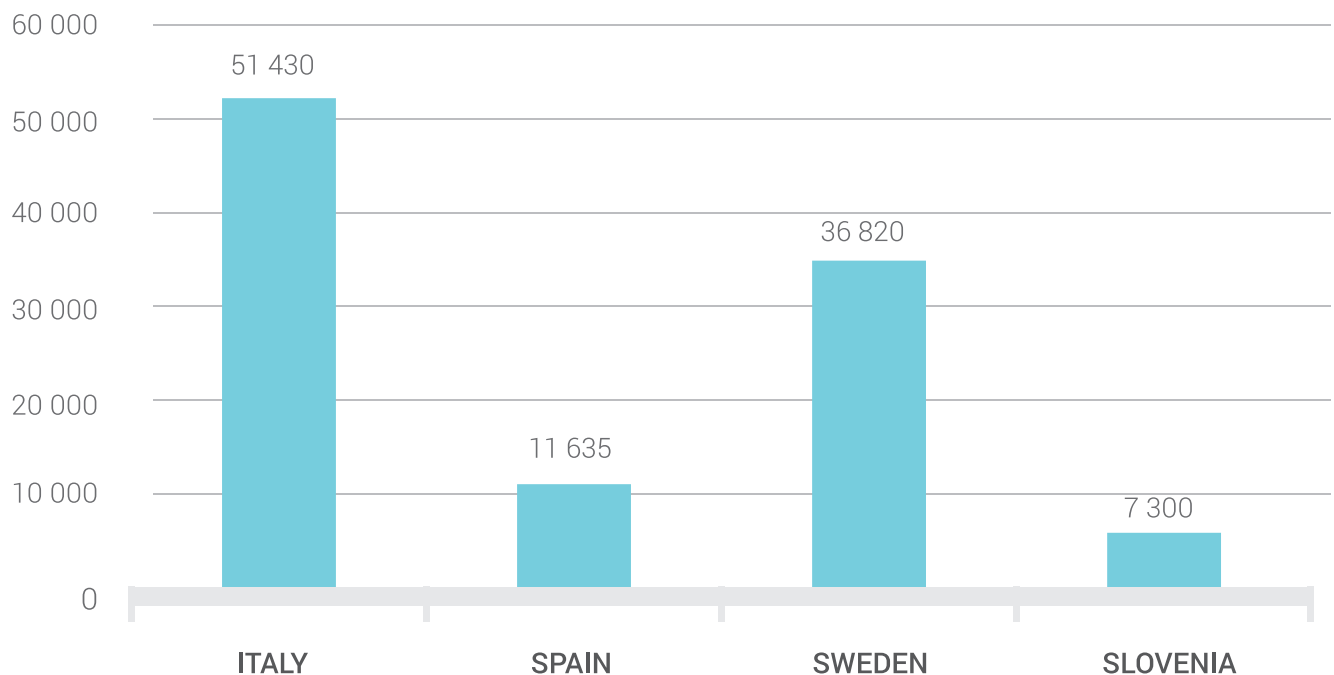
The subsidiary protection is given to a third-country national or a stateless person who does not qualify as a refugee, regarding the definition of the Geneva Convention, but in respect of whom substantial grounds have shown that the person would face a real risk of suffering serious harm if returned to their country of origin or country of former residence.

Stateless person

A stateless person is someone who is not considered as a national by any state under the operation of its law.

ASYLUM APPLICATIONS

Asylum application between 2015 -2019



According to the graphic above (Eurostat Data), we can see the significant number of asylum applications registered between 2015 and 2019 in Italy, which is 51.430. It can be explained by the fact that the Central Mediterranean Route (mainly from Libya and Tunisia directed to Italy and Malta) is one of the three most used ways to reach the European countries by the migrants. Indeed, Italy is most of the time the first European country they reach, which explains its important number of asylum applications. The two other ways are the Aegean Sea from Turkey to Greece and the Western Mediterranean Route (from Morocco and Algeria directed to Spain). Sweden comes at the second place, with 36.820

asylum applicants, then there is Spain (11.635 applications) and Slovenia (7300 applications).

We will now have a look on applications and granting status at first instance in 2018, according to the national data collected from the following countries. Again, there is an important difference between Italy and Sweden, or Slovenia, regarding the number of asylum request.

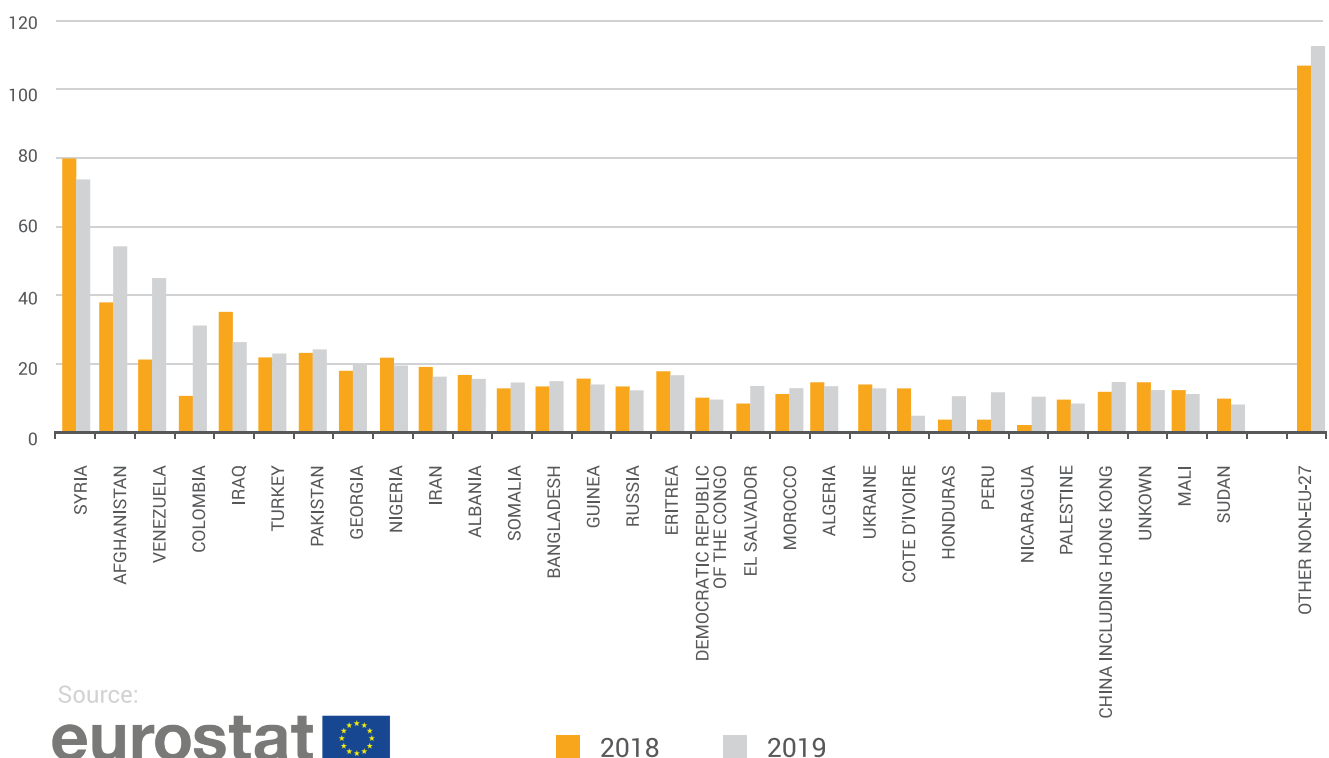


COUNTRY	Applicants and granting of protection status at first instance	Pending at and 2018	Refugee status	Subsidiary protection
ITALY	53 596	98 369	7 096	4 319
SPAIN	55 570	68 779	:	:
SWEDEN	21 502	17 389	5 990	3 985
SLOVENIA	2 875	290	99	3

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

Countries of origin of (on-EU) asylum seekers in the EU-21 Member States, 2018 and 2019

(thousands of first-time applicants)



As we can see on the graphic above, asylum seekers that applied in 2018 and 2019 in EU countries were mostly from countries such as Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Colombia more recently.

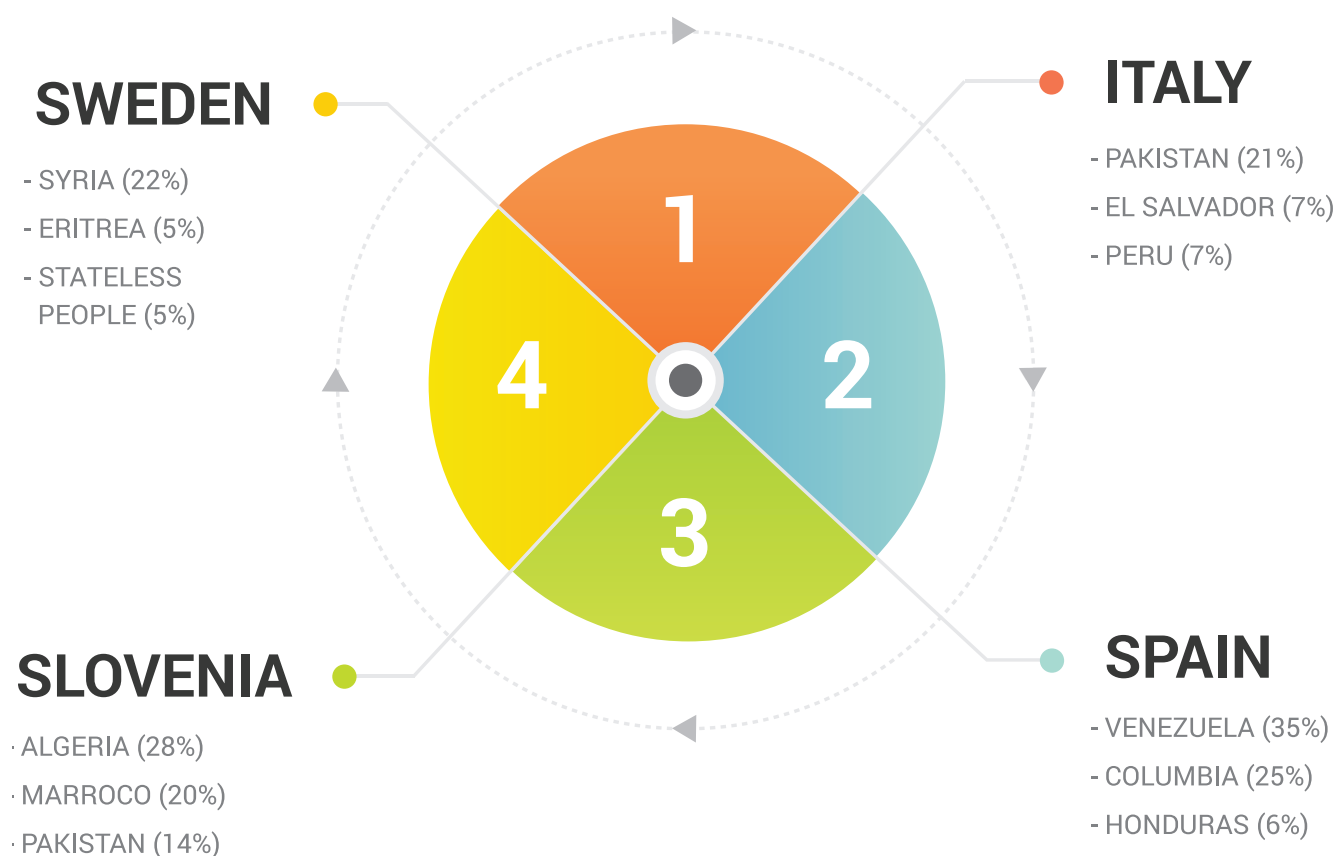
We will now present the asylum seekers and subsidiary protection top nationalities in the 4

countries we mentioned before.

According to 2019 Eurostat data, asylum seekers that applied in Italy mostly came from Pakistan, El Salvador and Peru. In Spain, they were from countries such as Venezuela, Colombia (as mentioned before) and Honduras. Sweden

ASYLUM SEEKERS

Top nationalities



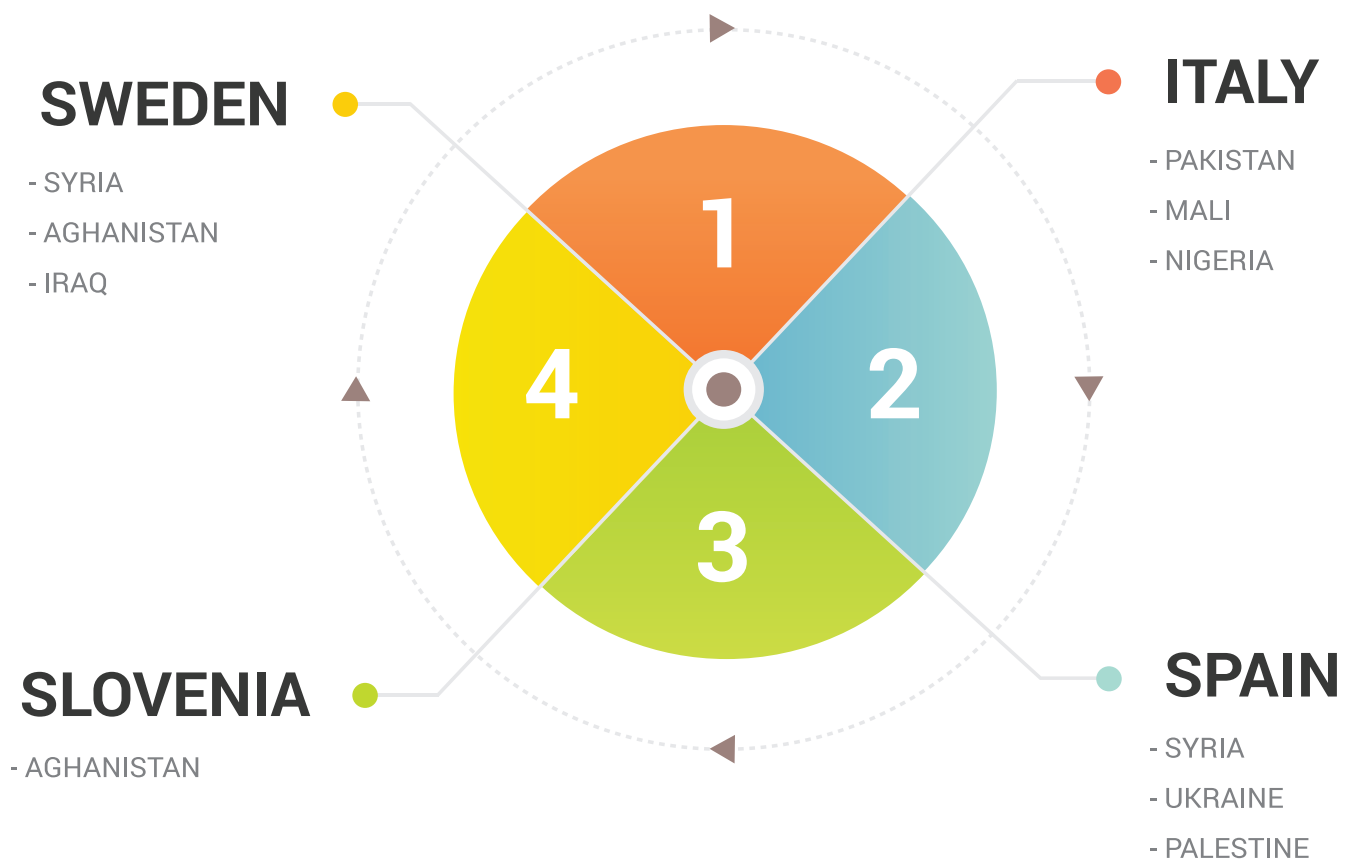
saw an important flow of asylum seekers from Syria, Eritrea and Stateless people. Finally, Algerian people, Moroccan and Pakistani were the majority to apply for asylum in Slovenia.

The next document shows which were the subsidiary top nationalities for each country. As we can see, there are similarities regarding

Syrian population for Sweden and Spain, and Afghan population for Sweden and Slovenia.

SUBSIDIARY PROTECTION

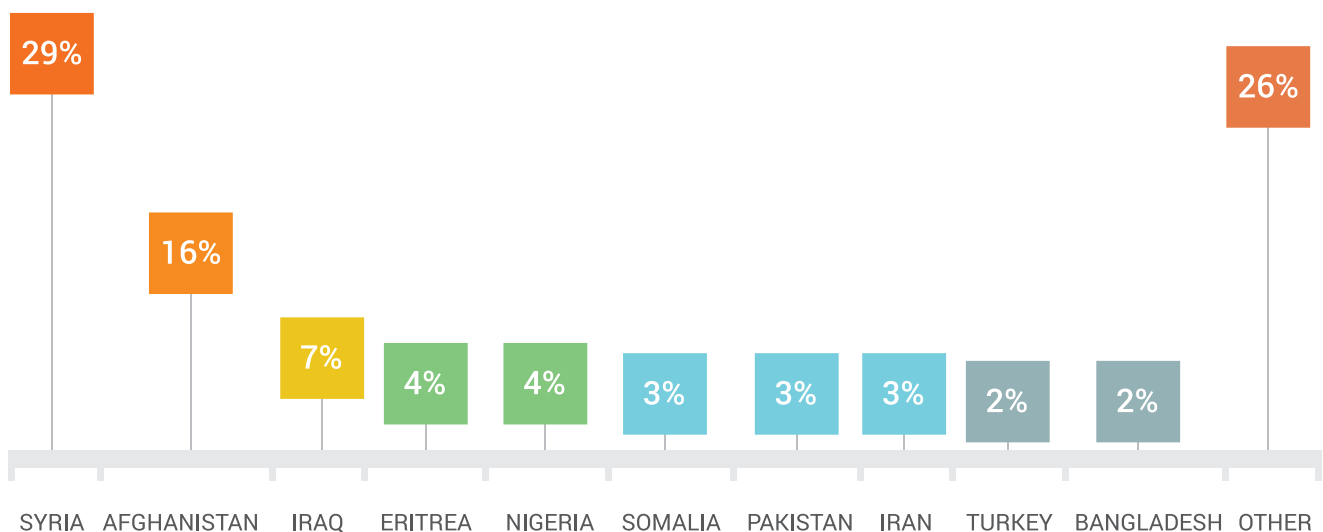
Top nationalities



The following document shows the nationalities that were mostly granted protection status at a European level, according to 2018 Eurostat

data. The three top nationalities were Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Asylum seekers granted protection status in the EU, by citizenship, 2018



"Others" refers to all other citizenships not present in the graph.
The parts do not add up to 100% due to rounding.

eurostat 

WHO QUALIFIES FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION AND HOW?

Before a person gets asylum, he or she must be recognized as refugees or beneficiary of an international protection. We will have a look on the policies implemented by the EU to harmonize the decisions within the Member States.

Indeed, the current Qualification Directive of 2011 amends Council Directive 2004/83/EC on min-

imum standards for the qualification and status of asylum seekers as refugees or beneficiaries of international protection. It sets out criteria for applicants to be granted a protection by the Member States. It also defines their rights when they are granted the protection, such as residence permits, travel documents, access to social welfare and so on. Moreover, it aims to ensure

that people fleeing their countries, for different reasons as mentioned, are treated in a uniform manner throughout the EU. The reasons of this standardization of policies is that it reduces disparities among the EU States in a situation of mass influx in a one hand. In a second hand, it promotes solidarity and the share of responsibility among Member States.

It appears that most of the states organize the following way regarding asylum applications:

In Spain, asylum seekers must make a formal application during their first month of stay in Spain. When this time limit is not respected, the law foresees the possibility to apply the urgent procedure, even if in practice, the competent authority will reject any asylum application that does not comply with the 1-month deadline when it considers that no valid justification exists for the delay. The process begins with the application presentation, that can be registered by the police in certain cases. After the registration of the application, the applicant is given an appointment for the formalization (“lodging”) of the application, which consists of an interview and the completion of a form, and shall be always be realized in the presence of a police official or an officer.

In Slovenia, Only third-country nationals can apply for international protection in Slovenia. A person may intend to file an application for international protection upon arrival in the Republic of Slovenia with any state body. The authority where the migrant has made an intention is obliged to inform the competent authority for international protection - the Ministry of the Interior. After the intention is given and before the application for international protection is submitted, a procedure with a foreigner with the police is carried out, if necessary with the assistance of

an interpreter. The police determine identity and the path of arrival to the Republic of Slovenia, and the applicant makes a brief statement of the reasons for international protection and other basic personal data (the so-called “registration certificate” is filled in). Then the person is taken to accommodation facilities, medical examinations are made, photo and fingerprints are taken. The Law on International Protection at first instance does not guarantee free legal representation of applicants, but it is ensured through the tendering of a selected NGO based on a project funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the Republic of Slovenia. In addition to legal representation, the NGO provides the applicant with information before presenting the application, at which he or she presents the person with the course of the international protection procedure and the rights and duties he / she has. After medical examination, taking photographs and fingerprints and informing her, she submits applications for international protection (first interview). The procedure is conducted by an official of the Ministry, who first asks the applicant for personal data and information on the route from the country of origin and arrival in the Republic of Slovenia. This is followed by the main part of the application, where the applicant independently gives a statement of the reasons for the application. Finally, the statement may be supplemented by additional questions from the official, the legal representative, if present, and the proxy. The procedure is conducted through an interpreter who, at the end of the interview, verbally translates the contents of the minutes to the applicant, who can comment on them. By signing the minutes, the alien officially gains the status of an applicant for international protection in the Republic of Slovenia. The latter, after examining the case, invites the applicant for a personal interview (second interview). In the face-to-face interview, the decision maker de-

tails the reasons for the international protection provided by the applicant in the application and any other facts and circumstances that may be relevant to the decision. At the end of the personal interview, the questions may also be asked by the legal representative, if present, and the proxy. The procedure is conducted through an interpreter who, at the end of the interview, verbally translates the contents of the minutes to the applicant, who can comment on them.

In Italy, the applicant for international protection is the person who submits the request for recognition of international protection in another state. The applicant remains such until the competent authorities decide on the same application for protection. Refugee status, or other protection holder, is recognized by the Territorial Commission for the recognition of international protection, following the submission of a specific application. Within thirty days of submitting the application, the Commission should convene the applicant. An interpreter may also participate in the hearing. The Territorial Commissions for the recognition of international protection are composed of four members, two of whom are from the Ministry of the Interior, a representative of local authorities and a representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

In Sweden, asylum seekers need to meet the border police when entering Sweden to tell them that they want to apply asylum (international airports, ferry terminals and where trains and buses enter Sweden). Then, they have to apply for asylum to the Migration Agency. They will need to prove their identity, to explain why they want to apply for asylum and how they have traveled to Sweden. They will get information about the asylum process, next steps, and what they must do. An administrator will investigate

all documents, fingerprints and so on. Later on, asylum seekers get an appointment letter to state when and where to meet the investigator. During this meeting, they have to explain the reasons why they applied, why they left their country home etc.. Asylum seekers have an interview with an administrator that will give the decision, explain why the application has been approved or refused and explain the status given and what happens next.

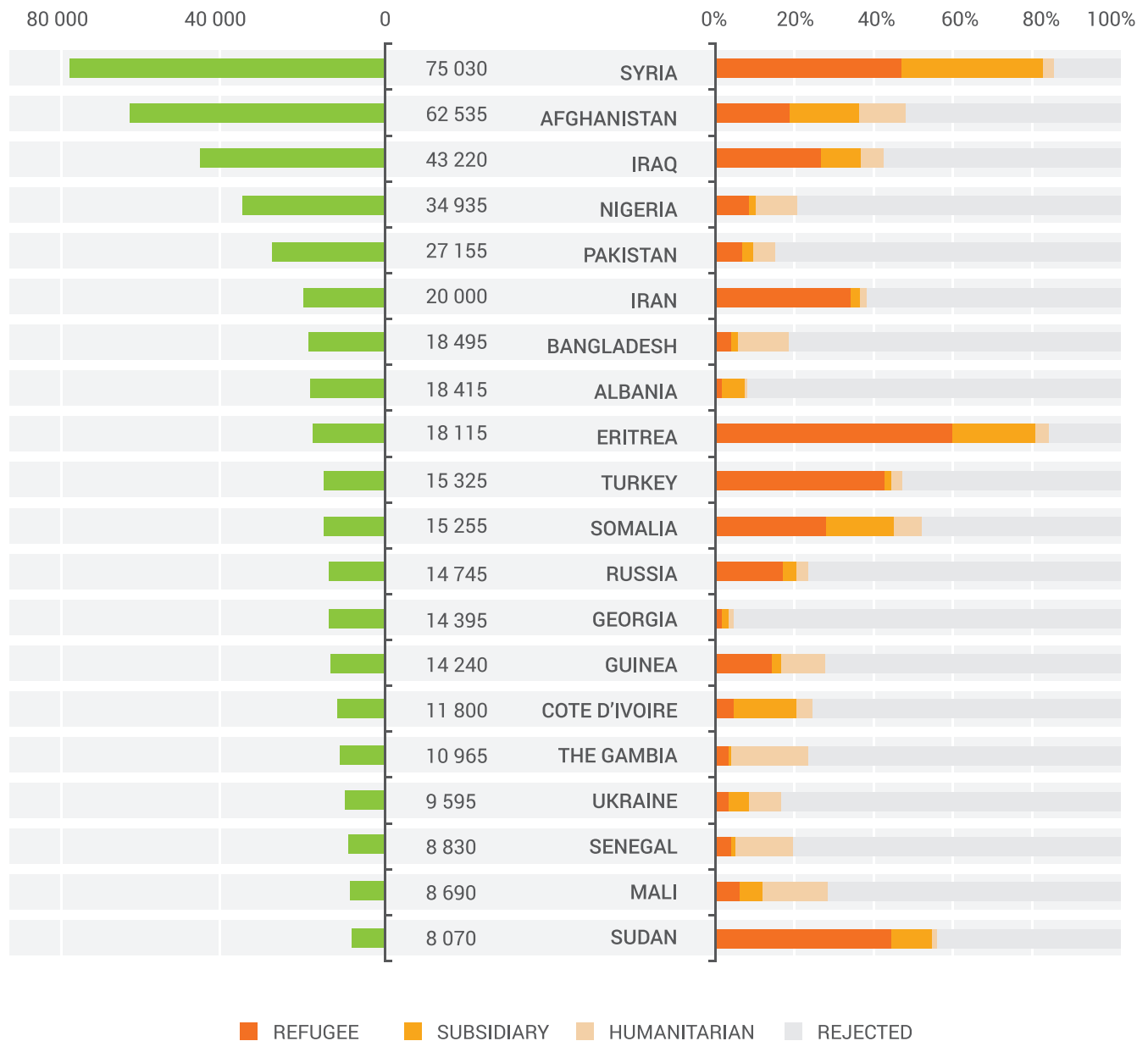
There are different possibilities regarding the decision at the first instance:

- Granting of refugee status (under Geneva convention)
- Granting of subsidiary protection
- Granting of an authorization to stay for humanitarian reasons under national law (not harmonized at EU level and reported by Eurostat by 24 of the 32 EU+ countries) concerning international protection
- Temporary protection status (less common, has not been yet used)
- Rejection of the application

We will focus on positive decisions granted through the following graphic that shows granted refugee status, subsidiary protection and authorization to stay for humanitarian reasons as explained before, in EU+ countries, in 2018. We can see that Syrians resulted to be the citizenship receiving the most first-instance decisions, with Eritreans at the second place.

Also, applicants from most citizenships of origin were granted primarily EU regulated forms of protection (as refugees, subsidiary protection).

Number of first-instance decisions (left) issued in 2018 and outcome (right), by country of origin



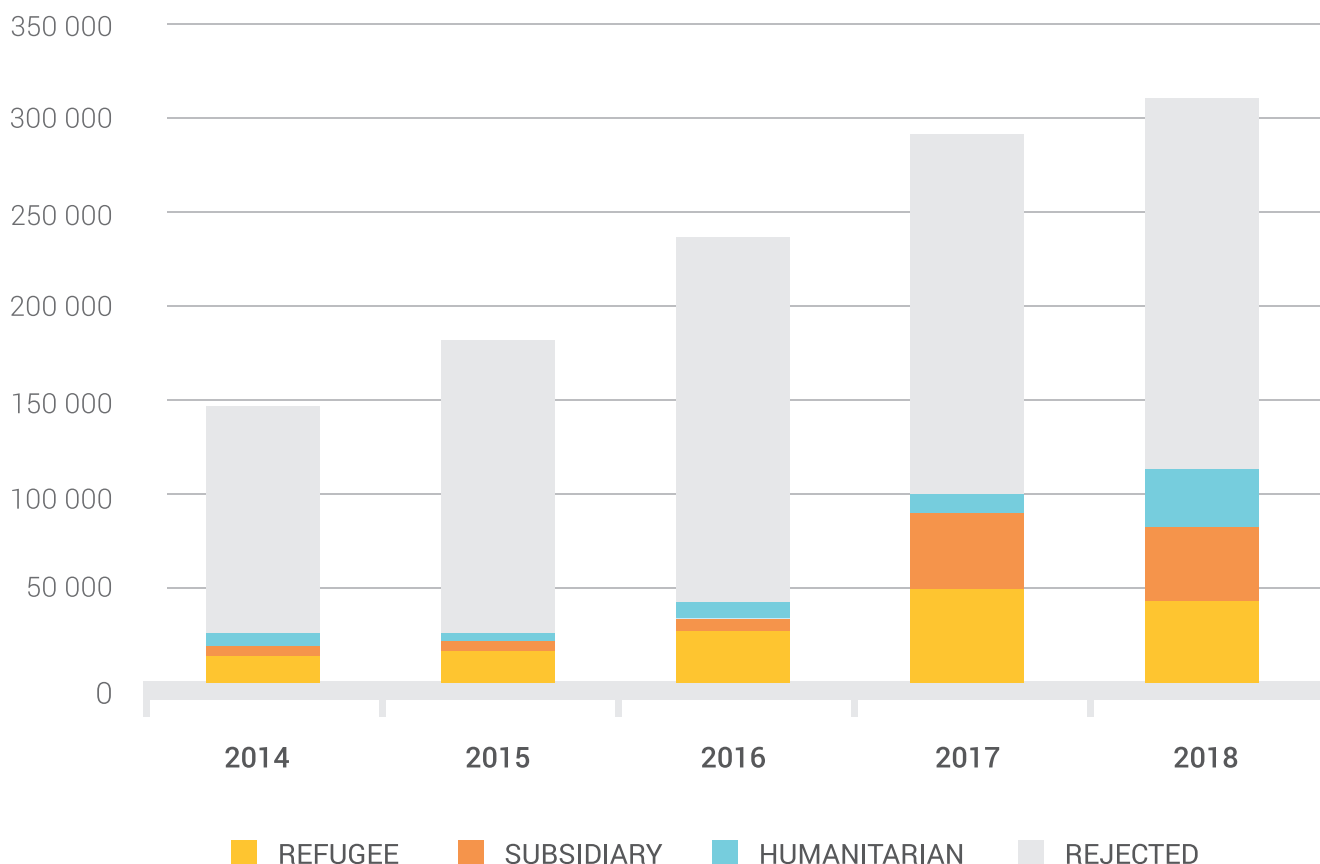
Source : EASO Annual Report 2018

WHAT ABOUT PEOPLE WHO HAD A REJECTION OF THEIR APPLICATION?

A refusal decision can be appealed. Indeed, Art. 46 of the recast Asylum Procedures Directive ensures the right to an effective remedy, even if it does not prescribe uniform EU standards in terms of the organization.

The following graphic shows final decisions issued in appeal in the EU+ between 2014-2018 and the fact that more decisions were issued at higher instances in 2018 than the years before.

Final decisions issued in appeal or review
in the EU+ 2014-2018



Source : EASO Annual Report 2018

We will now have a look on appeal instances of the following countries:

Slovenia

Judicial review is available for asylum seekers, it is initiated by filing a lawsuit against the Ministry of the Interior. Indeed, the applicant for international protection acts as the plaintiff and the Ministry as the defendant. The Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia, with headquarters in Ljubljana, decides on the application for judicial review.

Sweden

A refusal decision by the Migration Agency can be appealed before the Migration Court and has suspensive effect under the regular procedure.

Spain

When the asylum applicant wants to appeal against the first instance decision, there are two types of appeals that can be lodged: the first possibility is an administrative appeal for reversal (Recurso de reposición); the second one is a judicial appeal before the National Court (Audiencia Nacional).

Italy

The possibility for asylum seekers to appeal before the competent Civil Court (Tribunale Civile) against a decision issued by the Territorial Commissions rejecting the application is provided by the Procedure Decree



As recognized by the European Convention on Human rights (ECHR) and the European Social Charter, migrants who live on the territory of Member States have economic, social and cultural rights. Indeed, the Common European Asylum System lays down a set of obligations on Member States with regard to the conditions under which asylum seekers should be received.

It includes accommodation, health care, employment and education, as well as due care to persons with special needs.

In this section, we will try to identify these rights and how some migrant-receiving countries (Italy, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden) deal with this matter.

A. Access to the labour market

Work can be a way to integrate to the society. Indeed, it allows people to be a part of the dynamism of their host city and country and to have an income in order to take care of oneself and family. People have also the opportunity to socialize at the workplace and learn directly about the culture of the country thanks to the people they meet. Through trainings, it can also be a way to develop new personal and professional skills and knowledge.

According to the Refugee Convention, there is no obligation on countries to grant asylum seekers the right to work, and each country is free to determine this right under its own conditions.

We will first give brief descriptions of access to jobs for asylum seekers in some Member States, as for refugees they are allowed to work as soon as they are delivered the residence permit.

In Italy, asylum seekers can start to work within 60 days from the moment the asylum application has been lodged. However, even if they start working, the asylum seeker permit cannot be converted into a work or residence permit.

In Slovenia, the right to free access to the labour market is acquired 9 months after asylum seekers have lodged their application and if the decision has not yet been taken by the Migration Office. This means that they may conclude an employment contract or become self-employed solely on the basis of their status - asylum seeker. They do not need to seek the consent of the Employment Service or obtain a work permit. Prior to the first nine-month period, asylum seekers can perform various interpreting and maintenance tasks at the Asylum Home for a fee. Refugees have free access to the labor market under the same conditions as other citizens, but do not have equal access to all occupations or positions (eg those for which Slovenian citizenship is required). The only policy in employment has been adopted for refugees is “Job training” which lasts for six months but does not involve actual employment.

In Spain, asylum seekers are entitled to work within 6 months after the lodging of their application. Once the first 6-month period is over, applicants can request the renewal

of their « red card », which authorize them to work. There are no other requirements to obtain a work permit, which is valid for any labour sector. In order to facilitate their social and labour insertion, reception centers for asylum seekers organise vocational and host language training.

In Sweden, asylum seekers have the right to work if they have a certificate, which is called AT-UND. It means that they are exempted from the requirement of a work permit, that should be proved to their employer by showing their asylum seeker-card. Also, when asylum applicants have a qualification from a country

other than Sweden, they can apply to have it evaluated in certain cases. They need to contact the Swedish Council for Higher Education (UHR).

Having access to the labour market allows to be financially independent and to earn one's living which is important. It can also be a way to feel useful and to bring something and contribute to the host society, which brings a self-accomplishment feeling.

We will now have a look at the main typologies of employment asylum seekers have access to, depending on the following countries.

ITALY	Agriculture, Hotel services, Restaurants, Cleaning companies, Industries
SPAIN	Same profession category as their country of origin is preferred
SLOVENIA	Industry, Agriculture, Construction, Cleaning services and restaurants
SWEDEN	Janitor, Hospital attendant, Kitchen assistant, Nanny

As we can see, asylum seekers mostly work in the tertiary sector.

The main typologies of contractual framework are : indefinite, temporary (for a specific work or service) or apprentice in most cases. They can be full-time or part-time.

As we will see on the 2015 data below, at the European level, temporary employment of people aged 20-64 was higher for non EU-citizens (with 21,4%) than for national employees (12,9%), which is quite a large gap. At a national level, in Spain for example, temporary employment of people aged 20-64 was also higher for non

EU-citizens (with 36,8%) against 23.5% for national citizens. In Sweden, the difference is also significant as non-EU citizen of the same age that work temporarily represent 30,8% against 13,9 for EU-citizen. In Slovenia, they reach 32,8% for 16,5% of national employees. The less significant difference occurs in Italy even if the gap is still a reality : 16,4% for non EU-citizen against 13,5% for EU-citizen of the same age.



Temporary employees as percentage of the total number of employees, by age and groups of country of citizenship, 2015

	Nationals			Foreign citizens			Of which:					
							EU citizens (*)			Non-EU citizens		
	population at age											
	20-64	of which		20-64	of which		20-64	of which		20-64	of which	
25-54		55-64	25-54		55-64	25-54		55-64	25-54		55-64	
EU-28	12.9	11.6	6.3	18.7	18.1	10.3	15.9	15.3	8.5	21.4	20.6	12.2
BELGIUM	7.6	6.2	3.0	15.9	15.7	:	13.4	13.4	:	21.3	20.4	:
BULGARIA	4.3	4.1	3.5	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
CZECH REPUBLIC	9.7	8.6	7.0	15.0	13.5	:	15.7	14.4	:	14.0	12.4	:
DENMARK	7.4	6.2	3.0	10.7	10.3	:	9.3	9.2	:	12.2	11.3	:
GERMANY	10.6	8.7	3.4	17.8	16.6	6.4	17.1	16.7	5.3	18.6	16.6	8.3
ESTONIA	2.8	2.4	:	5.6	6.6	:	:	:	:	5.7	6.8	:
IRELAND	7.8	6.4	5.1	8.2	7.2	:	6.9	6.1	:	11.4	9.9	:
GREECE	10.8	10.0	8.4	21.9	21.7	:	24.4	25.7	:	21.4	20.8	:
SPAIN	23.5	23.5	9.5	36.8	35.5	27.3	32.2	30.4	23.6	39.6	38.6	29.7
FRANCE	15.1	12.5	8.3	25.3	25.5	15.1	16.9	17.7	:	30.6	30.2	21.0
CROATIA	19.8	18.8	8.3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ITALY	13.5	12.8	5.5	16.4	15.9	9.3	19.7	19.0	12.1	14.7	14.3	8.1
CYPRUS	11.2	10.5	6.5	45.7	46.7	:	19.0	18.8	:	80.2	81.1	:
LATVIA	3.5	2.8	3.9	3.8	:	:	:	:	:	3.9	:	:
LITHUANIA	2.0	1.6	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LUXEMBOURG	7.5	4.8	:	11.3	10.1	:	10.5	9.5	:	20.1	17.1	:
HUNGARY	11.2	10.2	10.8	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
MALTA	6.7	5.4	6.3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NETHERLANDS	16.3	14.2	6.0	26.2	24.8	:	21.9	21.1	:	32.2	29.9	:
AUSTRIA	5.8	4.7	2.6	8.9	8.2	:	9.2	8.6	:	8.4	7.7	:
POLAND	27.6	25.6	16.6	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
PORTUGAL	21.1	19.7	10.8	38.0	36.6	:	32.2	30.3	:	39.7	38.4	:
ROMANIA	1.4	1.2	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
SLOVENIA	16.5	13.6	8.6	32.8	31.3	:	:	:	:	32.1	30.7	:
SLOVAKIA	10.4	9.4	7.5	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FINLAND	13.7	12.4	7.0	21.4	21.6	:	17.0	17.3	:	26.1	26.0	:
SWEDEN	13.9	11.0	6.8	30.8	30.3	16.2	19.2	19.3	:	41.6	40.1	:
UNITED KINGDOM	5.0	4.0	4.7	9.5	8.9	6.7	8.8	8.1	:	10.7	10.2	:

(*) - Except reporting country

(:) - Data not available, not reliable or confidential

Most of the time, asylum seekers and refugees have the support of the job centers of their host country in order to find a job. Indeed, they are an integral part of the active network for work, with the aim of strengthening services for those seeking employment and responding effectively to the needs of citizens and the economic-productive system. They can provide many programmes and trainings in order to integrate to

the labour market. Also, many websites provide job opportunities.

In other cases, people can work on their own account, which can also be a possibility. It appears in the graphic below, that shows the share of self-employed persons (2015 data), that in the total self-employed population, there was 71,2% for nationals, 77,0% for mobile EU citizens and 71,6% for non-EU citizens.



(*) Except reporting country

B. Access to healthcare

Healthcare is also a key point, as the well-being of each resident group has a direct effect on public health of a whole country, which explains why improving migrants' access to basic healthcare services is of public interest. At an international level, the right to health was first articulated in the Constitution of the World Health Organization (1946). At a European level, the European Union provides financial support to improve healthcare for vulnerable migrants and integrate them into national healthcare systems. In the last few years, important amounts of money have been transferred regarding health to the receiving countries that faced high influx of newly arriving migrants and refugees. The EU provided around 6.7 million in 2015 regarding health challenges, 7.5 million in 2016 for the training of healthcare professionals and enforcement officers as well as sharing best practices on healthcare models for vulnerable migrants .

In Italy, the obligation to register with the National Health Service applies for regularly foreigners. It concerns all people regularly residing or who have requested the renewal of the residence permit. When they register they are entitled to the Health Card issue, which is given to the foreigners upon presentation of the residence permit. It is also delivered to the person who presents the coupon issued by the Police Headquarters or the postal receipt certifying the presentation of the residence permit application.

In Spain, medical services are provided by NGOs and public services. It includes movements to gather family members, special interventions in emergencies and settlements.

In Sweden, asylum seekers are entitled to emergency healthcare, dental care and health care

that cannot wait. Children and young people under 18 years old seeking asylum are entitled to the same healthcare and dental care as children resident in Sweden. Healthcare are largely free of costs for children, but this can vary depending on where they live. Medicine for children is free if there is a prescription from a doctor. Asylum seekers are also entitled to an interpreter when visiting healthcare staff. The County Council/Region decides which type of health care the asylum seeker can receive. Childbirth care, abortion care, advice on contraception, maternity care and healthcare to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. All asylum seeker will receive an invitation for a free health assessment after their application in order to get a prompt assistance if they need care. They can be taken in charge if they have any consequences of violence suffered in their country (violence and sexual assault, female genital mutilation, sexually transmitted diseases) or mental health issues, disability. When asylum seekers show their LMA card (card to show they are asylum seeker), they can pay a lower patient fees for healthcare appointment and medicine.

Access to healthcare is one of the most important concern as the general physical and mental health and well-being of the citizen is essential to the proper functioning of society and for its stability.

In Slovenia, beneficiaries of international protection and refugees have the right to be included in the compulsory health insurance scheme if their insurance is not provided elsewhere. The problem is that they have a hard time getting a personal doctor and that they do not have a

translator, so the language is a big obstacle. Asylum seekers only have access to limited emergency medical care. Asylum procedures take a long time and it is often unclear what constitutes “emergency” assistance, which has a very bad impact on their health. Lan-

guage barriers are being addressed by NGOs, which can provide limited help with overhauling, and a pro bono health clinic is also available to provide health care to people without access to health care.

C. Social life

We will now look at institutional services that are provided by the different Member States and what contributes to newcomers people social inclusion.

Social life is essential at many levels, as it allows newcomers people to build relationships with their host country and its citizen to learn and understand the way of living, the customs and to integrate better. Individuals are naturally social and feeling to be a part of a community is important in order to grow, but also to develop personal skills, learn the local language and widen one's horizons.

Indeed, many possibilities exist in order to involve people in the society. As an example, cultural and sports activities seem to be the best tools to create inclusion in society in a non-formal way, but also language learning, volunteering in associations or NGOs. Moreover, as there is diversity and people travel a lot, a change in the relationships and couples has been noticeable these last years.

In Slovenia, NGOs play an important role in integrating and meeting needs of asylum seekers, refugees, beneficiaries of international protection. The non-governmental sector in Slovenia is a key partner to the public sector. Through government co-financing to support asylum seekers and refugees, it implements programs and offers free legal counseling, non-formal education,

initial integration courses, language courses, in short, comprehensive soft content support for social inclusion.

In Sweden, there many possibilities for newcomers people to socialize. Indeed, many voluntary organizations, such sports clubs, cultural organizations and NGOs allow people to be a part of some projects and activities, depending on their values or what they prefer, such eco-friendly associations or NGOs that support human rights for example. Volunteering seems to be a good way to meet new people and feel to be a part of the society. For some activities, the Swedish Migration Agency can provide a compensation for travel to go there. Municipalities can also provide some activities and organize events for people to get to know each other, we can give the example of language cafes, where people from many countries can meet and discuss about many topics. This is a informal way to improve the language and to socialize.

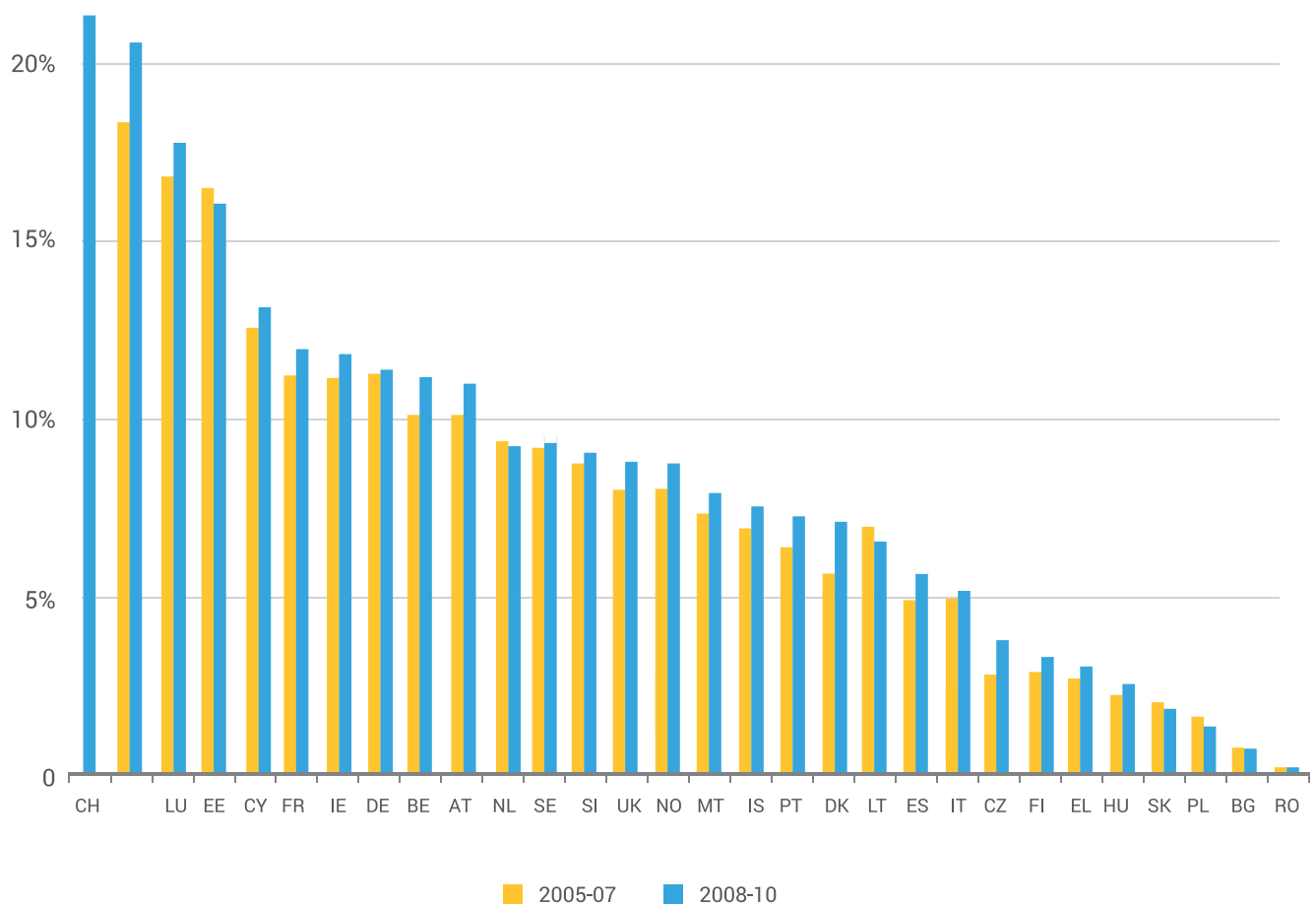
In Italy, many activities are taken in charge by association and municipalities in order to bridge the gap between migrants and locals. Also, public libraries offer a wide set of intercultural services. As an example, libraries in Roma offer places where discussion between local and migrants are generated, which allow to get to know each other and brings dynamism, as many lan-

guage can be spoken : everyone can add its one knowledge of a language and teach the others. The role of associations is also very important, as they promote social inclusion and integration into local communities, integrating solidarity, the promotion of human development thanks to activities.

In Spain, several programmes deployed at municipal and regional levels that provide language courses, civic education and vocational trainings. Also, the integration of migrants in the workplace, non-discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance are some of the main pillars of the Spanish integration policy. As the other Member States, associations and NGOs are very import-

ant , such the Spanish Red Cross, among others.
- Marriages with foreign-born persons in European countries

Among important indicators of the social integration of immigrants, we can consider the increase of mixed marriages, as well as potential factors of social and cultural change. According to two EU surveys, the percentage of persons in mixed marriage is estimated in 30 European countries over the last years. Indeed, across Europe, one in 12 married persons was in a mixed marriage for the period 2008-10, on average. The graphic below shows the increase of mix marriages in EU between two periods, 2005-07 and 2008-10.



SOURCE: SEE METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

(2)

SELECTION OF STRATEGIES AND TOOLS DEVELOPED BY EACH ORGANIZATION IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF ASYLUM SEEKERS AND BENEFICIARIES OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

1. Mobilizing Expertise

Mobilizing Expertise has worked with several stakeholders on the field of integration to work strategically. In this part we will mention some strategic work that they have done between 2014-2020 in Sweden.

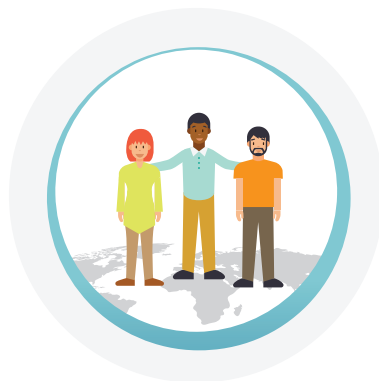
The whole picture as integration process

1



Increasing self esteem of the individual and let people discover their own culture

2



Providing multicultural meeting places

3



Building social network between different cultures

4



Encouraging the individual to take responsibility in society

5



Developing effective and creative methods for integration

6



Spreading methods to other sectors

Mobilizing Expertise worked with local NGO which name is IFALL (Integration För Alla) with 6 step model. They described how individual proceeds with the organization's working style, shown in Figure.

It is a chronological step by step model that suggests a young person progresses based on a chain effect; once a refugee/immigrant has achieved step one they are able to progress onto step two. According to the model a refugee/immigrant arrives into the organization with low self-esteem.

Step 1 aims to increase the individual's self-esteem by realizing the importance of an individual's culture. Through each step afterwards a refugee/immigrant begins to increase their self-esteem and give back to society through projects, realizing their own skills and competencies. The final stage relates to the wider context of the organization and how they disseminate the work of the refugee/immigrant and the organization. Although the model presents some concepts, it is limiting and presenting a complex process in a simplistic way. It is only understandable with further explanation or previous knowledge.

The purpose of each model is similar, presenting the refugee/immigrant's needs and the services the organization provides. The process and journey of increasing a refugee/immigrant's employability can be applied to model as the model has a section associated with increasing employability and realizes its importance. This model is used as a guide within the organization in order to support work and help with refugee/immigrant's process and journey and integration.

Work based Language Learning:

The language is one of the most important components when it comes to integration and later stage to enter labor market. In Sweden one of the main reasons to not have a job is that immigrant and refugees do not have enough language skills to be hired. Moreover, some of immigrant and refugees stay in SFI (Swedish for Immigrant) course long time before they come to labor market. It creates huge frustration among refugee/immigrants and waste of resources and time for the municipality and companies. Mobilizing Expertise took part of the strategic work with labor market unit and SFI to host refugees and immigrants in the company to apply new methods which called Work Based Language Learning.

WBLL is an approach adopted in Sweden as an effective, time-saving and useful practice to integrate refugees and immigrants into the labor market. Previously language would have been a barrier to enter the labor market, but this practice allows those involved to learn "on the job". It's an active approach that puts the worker directly at the center of both their own language and professional development.

Aims of the program:

- Increase number of refugee's accessing VET and remaining with vocational education and training long-term.
- To encourage active learning
- To immerse learners into the real-life labour market.

Impact of the program:

- Increases participation in the workforce and sustainability.
- Allows easy access to the workforce for the first time.
- Increases the number of refugees re-joining the workforce after a break/period of absence.
- Upgrades language and professional skills in their chosen field
- Enables them to move into a different career from previous qualifications/experience.

What is important in the method to be successfully implemented.

- Strategic grouping. Involves splitting the working group/individuals based on interests, occupation or desired occupation. Themes could be: business, IT, human resources and hospitality, depending on their background. This will help them learn new vocabulary from each other in a field relevant to them.
- Review days/Reflections; Time save at the end of the day/end of the course to review areas in which learners/students/workers are not fully comfortable. This is often conducted in rapid-fire fashion, with lots of repetition and speaking. As many of the selected problem areas as possible are covered. This supports and creates an honest and open working and learning environment.

Creative Drama as tool for the integration:

Mobilizing Expertise delivers several trainings for the staff/teachers/volunteers who

work with immigrant and refugees on the field. One of the main training/tools is Creative Drama. Creative drama is an improvisational, non-exhibition, process-oriented form of drama, where participants are guided by a leader to imagine, enact, and reflect on experiences real and imagined. Creative drama takes individuals through the natural world, creative play, and develops it further, using theatre techniques, to create learning experiences which are for the participants. Creative Drama has non-formal education methods which has been used as tool for integration. Some activities which we will mention are used on their training and can be used also widely in Europe.

The Tribe Game:

Participants divided into 2 different groups randomly and they assigned a task by the facilitator during the game. Both of 2 teams had tasks that completely opposite to each other and after preparation and creating a group dynamic and deciding the roles inside the group they needed to meet other team and they needed to save all people from the storm. This is a good example of creative drama. This game includes dances, drama, improvisation, group coordination, conflict management and time management. Youth operators can play this game with a bunch of participants. It involves real examples in life. Participants try to assimilate the other group during the period of the game and don't expand their comfort zones at all. Every movement from the opposite side seems like a threat and they don't even take consideration for agreement for mediation in the first round because they have their cultures and they are not open opponent ones. After a while, because of the time limit and life-threatening problem, both parties needed to compromise and create a mutual understanding to escape the problem. What participants un-

derstand that groups in real life do not tend to minimize their interest or adopt their character or behavior and they do not tend to create an inclusive atmosphere if they don't try. Therefore, this creative drama activity indicates differences that we live in nowadays society and creating awareness about discrimination and cooperation.

Gamification:

Mobilizing Expertise provided knowledge to several project related with gamification. The tool that we will present is a board game where we developed together with other European partners. Fun and playful tools are an effective way to promote personal fulfilment, active citizenship, social cohesion, building critical thinking, creativity, initiative, problem-solving, risk assessment, decision-taking and an increased knowledge about society. It is important for a refugee to understand the value of own culture and also European culture. Moreover, it is important for a refugee to recognize what is discrimination and how it should be act. Playing this game which we called Net Net Game, participants explore some of the crucial topics of Europe today: EU Citizenship, EU awareness and Democracy. More information about the game is in www.netnet-project.eu.

2. University of Alicante Foundation (FUNDEUN)

University of Alicante Foundation (FUNDEUN) is a non-profit making organization that works building bridges between the companies of the province of Alicante and the main university of the area. The foundation aims to take the knowledge of the University of Alicante (UA) to the companies and the experience of the enterpris-

es to the University.

It also promotes innovation and entrepreneurship in this common field of knowledge. Including the UA, FUNDEUN counts on 91 sponsors. They come from all the industries of a very entrepreneurial province, which is Alicante. There are energy companies, financial ones and many SMEs that support FUNDEUN. Many others, until the number of 300 just collaborate as clients or partners in different courses and activities. FUNDEUN makes an important job of promoting entrepreneurship as the mix of university and business knowledge allows FUNDEUN to help young students and professionals to start-up a business.

It has always helped University students in looking for a job or in considering the selfemployment as an option, but the evolution of the Economy the last decades has provoked a strong orientation to Europe, emerging countries and innovation, research and development. FUNDEUN has an important experience in working in projects related to Innovation, since there are business trends that are very innovative and not offered by the Academy yet. In this area, FUNDEUN has had to go directly to the market to find the most advanced knowledge, professionals, lecturers, mentors, etc. With them FUNDEUN has organized important innovative courses that have allowed businesses, students, and professionals to be competitive in the changing market.

During the last 2 years FUNDEUN has been collaborating in the project Inclusion of Roma and Migrants in Schools (RoMigSc). This project aims at addressing the inclusion of Roma and migrant children in their learning environments (with the support of well-trained teachers and volunteers), as well as promoting engagement of youth in volunteering (including through the formal recognition of their work). The project supports at the same time initiatives for improvement in the

area of inclusion of Roma/migrant children and in the area of volunteering by targeting different stakeholders, including policy makers. Also, according to the needs of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection and beginning with the learning of Spanish, collaborating institutions organize training courses with face-to-face- hours and some online material when it is possible. Moreover, through direct contact between collaborating institutions and companies, the latter ones offer mentoring and practical learning. These companies are recruited because of their interest in helping refugees.

3. Farsi Prossimo

The Farsi Prossimo is an NGO promoted by Caritas located in Faenza and registered in 1991 to promote social inclusions projects, researches and initiative in favour of disadvantaged people. The organization support and directly manage counselling centres, reception facilities for migrants /homeless/people in need; social services; education and promotion initiatives to face different kind of social problems such as: poverty, social exclusion, trafficking in human beings.

Farsi Prossimo manages centres to promote social cohesion in cooperation with local and national public authorities and with local NGOs. The organization can rely on an internal staff made both of professionals workers and on a large number of volunteers committed in the social and solidarity principles pursued by the organization. In the last 10 years, the organization has been focusing a large part of its services and projects in the migration sector. Among the mean services the following can be mentioned: to offer individualize paths of social and economic inclusion to migrants, to elaborate studies and researches on migration phenomenon, to

increase the visibility on immigration topic and problems to local community; to participate to the local public policy making process in the migration sector.

To facilitate social application, courses are organized for learning the Italian language.

The Italian courses are delivered separately on the basis of the literacy levels of the beneficiaries, which are assessed by the teacher at their entrance, in anticipation of group and specific teaching paths.

In parallel, the classes also carry out specific objectives : to guarantee a level of literacy for beneficiaries who have never had access to education in their country of origin and to deepen the Italian language and culture, also through thematic lessons on local uses and customs, for school beneficiaries.

In addition, the Italian course includes educational trips to encourage learning through experiential activities that speak and the beneficiaries also of the local history, or of the services that the Municipality of Faenza offers.

In addition to learning the language, an integration operator takes care of accompanying the beneficiaries of the project to the knowledge of the services offered by the territory, gathering their needs and indicating suitable opportunities for their satisfaction

Their project provides continuous training with a view to an adult education and re-education path that aims to allow the person in training to acquire skills and abilities that encourage their placement in the world of work.

There is a drafting by a socio-occupational integration operator of a balance of skills for each

beneficiary that allows them to create training courses that reflect the aspirations and skills of the individual. The same operator takes care of looking for courses offered by local vocational training bodies and together with the beneficiaries evaluates the possibility of undertaking individualized training courses. The assessment takes into account their language skills, professional aspirations and previous educational and professional experiences. In addition, the operator registers and prepares the boys for the relative selection interviews.

Farsi Prossimo organization, since the beginning of its activity, was committed in providing reception, counselling, information, psychological support to migrant citizens in need living in Ravenna Province. Since 2013, under an agreement signed with Ravenna Prefecture has been managing reception centres addressed to beneficiaries of international protection, asylum seekers and refugees, these activities enable the organization in enhance expertise and competence of its own staff such as:

- Guidance and counselling to local services: beneficiaries needs assessment, Italian language course provision, orientation activities.
- Linguistic and cultural mediation.
- Professional training activities addressed to adult learners in order to enhance their employability opportunities into the local/regional labour market.
- Job placement service: Training and preparation to job interviews; CV elaboration; training on soft skills, training on digital and computer skills
- Support to the housing services and provision through counselling and desk information provision and mediation services with estate agencies...

- Alliances and cooperation with local services providers and stakeholders working in sectors involving AS/ BoIP and refugees.
- Legal support services through a strict collaboration with the main local/regional/public actors such as: Prefecture, Police headquarter, immigration services/desk linked to some of the main legal procedures involving asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection (international protection application; family reunification, assisted voluntary return.
- Psychological and medical support: assistance in accessing to the main health and medical services available at local level in order to remove barriers and promote the beneficiaries wellbeing. The Association offers a psycho-sanitary protection service by checking the beneficiary's health position to understand if it needs examinations or specialist visits that are performed in the shortest possible time.

Then, they proceed with the orientation to the Social Health Services present in the area and their methods of use (health card, identification of the general practitioner, related examinations and planned vaccinations, etc.). To make the local health services more accessible and to remove any obstacles of a bureaucratic, linguistic and social nature, the project promotes the management of these aspects by a health operator who interfaces with the ASL offices and the related contexts and with the doctors, continuously accompanies hospital hospitals, supports the beneficiaries in acquiring autonomy for matters concerning the taking charge of their own health.

By ensuring confidentiality, the medical records of each beneficiary are updated by the operator who keeps a copy of all the sensitive material of the beneficiaries in a special archive to prevent

important documents from being lost and to have a clear health situation for each.

Furthermore, through the team of doctors in immigration medicine and nurses structured within the Farsi Prossimo Association and in collaboration with experts from the SERT and from the various ASL sectors (such as the CSM), it is possible to have information and training on the subject healthcare for operators and a basic orientation to the beneficiaries of the project through specific courses at the structures and to build multidisciplinary courses.

4. Društvo za razvijanje prostovoljnega dela Novo mesto

Društvo za razvijanje prostovoljnega dela Novo mesto (Association for Developing Voluntary Work Novo mesto) is a Slovenian non-governmental and humanitarian organisation, working in the public interest in the area of social care, youth and culture. Their mission is to contribute to more inclusive and open society for all. Their two leading programs therefore deal with inclusion of socially excluded groups and with the stimulation of the NGO development and civil dialogue. The activities within the programs are performed by expert and voluntary work. They promote the values of solidarity, tolerance, voluntarism, active living, clean environment, citizenship awareness and inter-cultural dialogue, citizens participation.

Inclusion of socially excluded groups:

Socially excluded groups (especially migrants and Roma) who, due to limited access to the physical, cultural and social resources have no chance of equal participation in society; participate in various activities for strengthening their

position and role (empowerment).

Social programs:

There are many social programs aimed at improving skills and self-confidence such as:

- A daily center for children (mostly for children with migration experience), creative workshops, social workshops, Slovene language course, individual study help, leisure activities, the use of computer as a learning tool, folklore group, theatre group. They contribute to a better integration of the youth in all three institutional networks (education, employment and leisure cultural system) by involving the young in youth work and voluntary work and providing them with various trainings.

There are also programs for adults: Slovene language and culture courses, information office, assistance, counselling, advocacy, trainings for better integration in labour market, lectures on healthy lifestyle. Indeed, they provide holistic support for newcomers to different target groups, including adult women (language, workshops of sewing, cooking and work experiences in cooperation with local businesses).

Intercultural dialogue:

Active participation of different ethnic groups in the society is encouraged by the organization; at the same time, they raise awareness of the public through activities based on direct contact of majority with minority, thus showing that their positive attitude and active participation in the social integration of these groups is essential for the coexistence of different cultures. They sensitize them for the proper management of cultural diversity, which contributes to the social well-being and cohesive society. Social inclusion

and intercultural dialogue are complementary approaches, which enforce the idea that societal integration works as a two-way process of mutual learning and adaptation (“learning culture”) and enable effective social integration of socially excluded groups.

Many stakeholders from all three sector (public, non-governmental and private) are involved in the support of these target groups.

Some of their other activities are the following:

- Implementation of programs that connect employers and migrants, assist in CV preparation, acquisition of soft skills (social skills) for easier access to the labour market, mainly through integration programs, providing information and labour experience. Promoting volunteer work as a way to gain meaningful experience to enter the labour market.
- Support for finding family reunification accommodations and support for document editing, monitoring users for documentation editing in public institutions, assistance with translation and interpretation of documents, and writing applications.
- Developing awareness programs in the area of health and healthy lifestyles and the promotion of sports for young people. Important support is provided in the area of personal counselling and resolving distress of young people.

As a conclusion, we saw throughout this document the main policies implemented at local, regional and national level in some European countries, which shows how important the knowledge of the context and some data are essential to have a better understanding of the situation, in

order to find solutions and develop new tools. Also, it is important to highlight the importance of both economical and social strategies in order to include migrants and beneficiaries of an international protection to the society they live in, as they complete each other: it reminds the European Pillar of Social Rights, which is about delivering new and more effective rights for citizens, including three categories: equal opportunities and access to the labour market, fair working conditions and social protection and inclusion. Indeed, workplace is an important step to integrate for newcomers but can't be enough. The social part and the role of NGOs and associations, but also municipalities play an essential role regarding individuals experience and the way their feeling of belonging will be developed. As we could see through the selection of the partners' strategies, many tools already exist and can be used and adapted in other countries and organizations in order to ease newcomers' social inclusion. Language learning, intercultural dialogue, among others, seem to be efficient to learn the culture of the host country and help people to socialize more and integrate more efficiently to the host country.

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