Systematic language training in Lithuania: where to start?



Lietuvos Respublikos socialinės apsaugos ir darbo ministerija



Target:

An effective inclusion system for foreign-born residents of Lithuania, focused on the country's economic, social, and cultural development.



(I) Mental health literacyprogram for professionalsworking directly with refugees

(II) Minimum service standardfor mental health promotionand psychosocial support – byApril 2025

(III) Competence buildingbased on the standard – startsin 2025



Develop clear policy and regulation for integration of foreign-born residents – task set in the Government programme implementation plan

(IX) Developing a network of integration coordinators for foreign-born residents, involving 16 municipalities

(X) Providing targeted integration services at the municipal level in 2025 Access to public service & support



(VI) One-stop access to information(Migration Information Center) –micenter.lt

(VII) Social and Cultural Introduction Program for Foreignborn Residents in Lithuania: a 40hour training cycle – by April 2025

(VIII) Training the trainers of social and cultural programme – starts in 2025



(IV) Centralized access to translation & interpretation services

(V) Development of a systematic language training programme – task set in the Government programme implementation plan



Employment service

- Refugee Reception Center
- > Municipalities
- > Universities

In 2024 3 953 foreigners completed language training

PROS

- Wide reach of the target group
- Access to aggregated data for us

- Language efficiency is not a function of the Employment service
- Limited funding
- Lack of monitoring system for the quality of the programme
- No motivational system

- Employment service
- Reception and Integration Agency
- > Municipalities
- > Universities

Each year, about 300 persons granted international protection attend language courses as a part of their integration programme

PROS

- Complementarity of actions (individual integration plan)
- Targeted support and individual monitoring
- Motivational system
- Access to aggregated data for us

- Limited funding
- Limited target group

- Employment service
- > Refugee Reception Center
- > Municipalities
- > Universities

In 2023–2024 a total of 1 507 persons under temporary protection participated in the language courses

PROS

- Accessibility for persons in remote municipalities
- Tailored approach to local community

- Limited funding
- Limited timeframe
- Limited access to aggregated data for us
- Lack of monitoring system for the quality of the programme
- No motivational system

- Employment service
- Refugee Reception Center
- > Municipalities
- Universities & Kaunas kolegija higher education institution

1 June 2024 – 30 April 2025 1 600 Ukrainians participated in Lithuanian language training

PROS

- Small groups and tailored programmes
- Targeted support
- Relevant experience and resources

- Limited funding
- Limited timeframe
- Limited access to aggregated data
- Limited monitoring system for the quality of the programme

Where do we go from here ?

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Commitment of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania:

- To develop and implement a system for linguistic and socio-cultural integration for foreigners, returning Lithuanians, and national minorities, including newly forming communities, by assigning responsibilities to ministries and institutions according to their competencies, defining the rights and obligations of the target group, and establishing a monitoring system
- Ministry of Culture the coordinating ministry
- Working group is being established
- Past pilots are being examined
- To do list is being drafted

Thank you for your attention



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