



National State of the Art Report

ReEntry – Supporting Migrants into Self-Employment

Prepared by KTP

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Socio-economic Profile of Migrants in your country

As of 31 December 2015, there were 467,562 foreigners legally resident on the territory of the Czech Republic, of which most (55,6%) were granted a permanent residence permit. 204,630 people (43,8 %) stayed with one of the types of temporary stay (long-term visas or long-term residents, EU citizens and their family members, temporary stay). The rest, i.e. 2 892 persons, consisted of foreigners who were granted asylum in the Czech Republic.

The number of women foreigners with residence permits has grown steadily, although men still have the majority. At the end of 2015, women accounted for 43.6% of legally living foreigners in the Czech Republic (compared to 40% in 2006).

In 2015, citizens of the EU-28 reached more than four-tenths (41.8%) of legally residing foreigners in the Czech Republic, with their representation still growing (only 31.8% in 2006). On the other hand, the share of third-country nationals continues to decline (by 2015 a drop of 1.1 pp).

The ranking of the most represented citizenship has not changed significantly in the statistics of foreigners with residence permit. The most represented groups are traditionally citizens of Ukraine (106 019 persons), Slovakia (101 589) and Vietnam (56 958). Citizens of these three countries accounted for 56.6% of foreigners with a residence permit (or with an authorized or registered residence) in the Czech Republic in 2015. In 2015, the Russians (34,972) were ranked fourth, as were the previous year, followed by the Germans (20,464) and the Poles (19,840). Other places were occupied by Bulgarians (10,984), Romanians (9,116), US citizens (6,478) and Great Britain (5,966).

In spite of the economic crisis, the number of foreign-holders of trade licenses increased by 2011. At the end of 2011, the number of foreigners with trade licenses in the Czech Republic reached their maximum, 93 059. In 2015, there were 83 862 trade license holders, 67 % of which are from the EU. It is mostly men who hold the trade license in Czech Republic (69.1% in 2015). In 2015, most of the foreigners with trade licenses (35.4%) were registered in the territory of the capital city Prague.¹

Policy Analysis

According to the National Integration Strategy, integration of foreigners is a complex process that actually takes place in places of residence, employment, business or study of foreigners, on the basis of direct coexistence with the majority society. The quality of relationships and the frequency of encounters between the migrants and residents of the municipality or region is a key factor in integration. That is why it is crucial to support civil society at the regional and local level.

The primary tool for the support of integration at local level are municipal projects to support the integration of foreigners (formerly “emerging projects”). The key objective of the projects is to provide municipalities with a stimulus and support to develop their own integration

¹ ŽIVOT CIZINCŮ V ČR, Český statistický úrad, Praha 2016

strategy. By means of state subsidies, municipalities can implement activities that support local integration. These are complex integration projects applied on the basis of an analysis of the situation in a given location and implemented by the local government in the necessary co-operation with foreigners and other integration actors in the municipality (e.g. NGOs, schools, maternity and parent centers or clubs).

An important tool for the support of the integration of foreigners at the regional level is a network of regional Centers for Integration of Foreigners. The centers implement integration activities in the region, targeting both foreigners and the majority, including public authorities. They offer a full range of integration services, including the implementation of foreigners' activities, communication and mutual learning between foreigners and the majority.² One of the areas that is included in the integration strategy is also the Entrepreneurship of migrants.

National Initiatives and Programmes

❖ *Guide to Licensed Trades by the Ministry of Industry and Trade*

The Ministry of Industry and Trade issued a Guide to business activities for natural persons and corporations, who are not resident in the territory of the Czech Republic (a foreign natural person other than EU, EEA and Swiss citizens). The Trade Licensing Guide is a manual whose aim is to introduce to both the starting and existing businesses the basic requirements set forth by Czech legislation in relation to application for trade licenses/authorization to carry out business in the Czech Republic. On the web page, there are several downloadable files for different types of businesses: <https://www.mpo.cz/en/business/licensed-trades/guide-to-licensed-trades/guides---foreign-natural-person-excluding-the-citizens-of-eu--eea-and-switzerland--51751/>

❖ *National Financial Incentives*

The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic published a call for applications for state subsidy to non-governmental non-profit organizations under the grant program "Integration of Foreigners 2017". Within the framework of subsidies, CZK 20 066 976 (743 000 €) is allocated by the Ministry of the Interior to support 23 projects.³

❖ *Welcome to the Czech Republic*

Adaptation/integration courses aiming to help foreigners by familiarising them with the new environment in Czech Republic and help them overcome any obstacles within the first few months of their stay. The courses offer a bounty of practical information about the way Czech society functions, including the Business: Starting a business license in the Czech Republic. Duties – Health insurance, social insurance, taxes. Residence of foreigners for the purpose of business. The courses are conducted in Czech with professional interpretation in English, Russian, Ukrainian, French, Vietnamese, Mongolian and Arabic. Adaption/integration courses are for non-EU citizens who have

² Postup při realizaci aktualizované Koncepce Integrace cizinců - Ve vzájemném respektu, 2017

³ <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/vysledky-v-ramci-dotacniho-programu-integrace-cizincu-2017.aspx>

started a new life in the Czech Republic. The integration course “Welcome to the Czech Republic” is free of charge for the participants.⁴

❖ *Centres for Integration of Foreigners*

In 2009, Refugee Facilities Administration of the Ministry of Interior (www.suz.cz) opened Centres for support of the integration of foreigners (CPIC) within projects financed by the European Fund for the Integration of third-country nationals. In the period from 1. 7. 2016 to 30. 6. 2019, the Centres continue to operate in all of the regions within individual projects, which are funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF). All services are provided free of charge in each CPIC. The scope of each CPIC is not limited to the county town, but trying to cover its activities throughout the county. The activities include courses on Business, Taxes, Business Plans, Accounting and more.⁵

⁴ <http://www.vitejtevcr.cz/index.php/en/>

⁵ <http://www.integracnicentra.cz/>