



Dynamic Reinforcement for
European Adaptation of Migrants



Erasmus+

NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

CZECH REPUBLIC





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The total number of immigrants holding a residence permit in the Czech Republic slightly increased is about 434 000, which represented around 4 % of the total population.

171,8 thousand from EU member states

The major immigrant communities are Slovak, Bulgarian, Romanian, Polish

262,2 thousands from non EU member states

The major immigrant communities are Ukrainian, Vietnamese and Russian.



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Top 5 countries or areas of origin	Total
Ukraine	127 239
Slovakia	73 437
Viet Nam	61 744
Russian Federation	32 946
Poland	18 663
Total	314 029



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Migration Policy of the Czech Republic

The Czech Republic has become, in recent years, a country that is the destination country for foreign nationals migrating for work and business reasons, who want to settle here on a long-term basis or permanently

The priority of national activities in migration is to formulate effective measures, which will support managed legal migration, while minimising illegal migration.

The activities supporting legal migration include, for example, the project entitled Selection of Qualified Foreign Workers, Green Cards, etc...



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Approach of the Czech Republic to Legal Migration

In a modern society, it is necessary to approach migration as one of the tools for economic development of the country. Within the **Czech Government's Migration Policy Principles**, the thesis was adopted that **the national migration policy does not place obstacles to legal migration and supports immigration, which is beneficial for the state and the society in the long run**



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In accordance with this policy, a pilot project entitled **Selection of Qualified Foreign Workers**

The guarantor of the implementation of the Project is the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic.

The goal of the Project **is to bring qualified foreign workers to the Czech Republic, who are able to contribute to development of the economy**, and to integrate into the Czech society permanently together with their families.



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Green Cards

The model of Green Cards is based on the maximum possible openness towards foreign applicants for jobs, whilst maintaining elements of protection of security, public order and strict punishment of violations of current law and efforts to avoid or abuse set rules. This model should enable employers to quickly acquire labour from third countries.

The Green Cards Project is primarily aimed at **highly qualified labourers – university or college graduates or persons with lower qualifications.** Depending on the situation on the market it also enables the acquisition of unqualified workers, if they are needed, however, such workers may be granted a Green Card only for two years without any possibility to extend it.



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EU Blue Card

An EU Blue Card is a new residential status designed for a long-term stay involving performance of a highly skilled job.

An EU Blue Card entitles a foreign national to stay and perform a job, i.e. the foreign national does not need a separate work permit.



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Approach to Illegal Migration in the Czech Republic

Not only **unauthorized entry into the territory of a state or unauthorized departure from the territory of a state** but also **unauthorized stay in the territory or a stay in conflict with the purpose for which residence permit was issued** needs to be regarded as illegal migration.

The basic document concerning the combat against illegal migration is the **Action Plan of Combat against Illegal Migration.**

The main goal of the Action Plan is to find and implement such solutions and measures that can minimise illegal migration and motivate foreign nationals to legally enter and stay in the territory of the Czech Republic.



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Programme for Support in Combating Illegal Migration

The Ministry of the Interior created a **Programme for Support in Combating Illegal Migration**

Basic goal is to ensure efficient cooperation among persons who were the subject of an action to facilitate illegal immigration, with the bodies responsible for criminal proceedings and other involved parties in detecting, exposing and preventing the criminal activities concerned, while simultaneously ensuring the necessary care of the persons concerned and possibly even for their family members currently staying in the territory of the Czech Republic, with a fundamental emphasis on their personal safety.



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Visa Policy

Common visa policy forms one of the basic pillars of the border control system of EU/Schengen Member States and, at the same time, represents an instrument for migration management and a component of external relations policy.

Visa policy is further developed by the Schengen Member States and as such is subject to a number of common rules concerning in particular short-stay visas. The procedures and conditions for issuing visas for transit through or intended stays in the territory of the Schengen Member States not exceeding three months in any six-month period.



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Readmission Policy

Although the Czech Republic, just as the other European Community states, prefers voluntary return for all persons who are illegally present in its territory, it is necessary to ensure mechanisms making it possible to remove such a person from its territory in cases where the person refuses voluntary return. **Readmission agreements are the mechanism for carrying out returns of persons who refuse to take advantage of the opportunity for a voluntary return.**

The issue of assisted voluntary returns of foreign nationals has been addressed, on a long-term basis, by the Ministry of the Interior **for failed applicants for international protection, for foreign nationals who have been issued with a decision on administrative expulsion and have been given a deadline for leaving the territory of the Czech Republic and for those foreign nationals who have been placed in detention centre in connection with an issued decision on administrative expulsion.**



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Analytical Centre for Protection of State Borders and Migration

The mission of the **Analytical Centre for Protection of State Borders and Migration** is to ensure close cooperation and improve the exchange of information among all the bodies involved in the protection of state borders and the management of international migration.



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Activities carried out by the centre are divided in to four forums, distinguished by the topics they cover:

Migration Forum monitors the situation pertaining to the residence of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic including the provision of recommendations and proposals to adopt measures in the area.

Security and Operations Forum focuses on an operative evaluation of security risks relating to protection of the national border and illegal migration and formulates recommendations and proposals for measures to be adopted in this area.

Strategy Forum concentrates on formulating comprehensive opinions concerning border protection and migration in the Czech Republic. The overall direction of the Analysis Centre is also being discussed within the Strategy Forum.

Visas Forum monitors visa policy and practice by formulating recommendations and proposals for measures to be adopted in this field.

The Analysis Centre is coordinated by the **Asylum and Migration Police Department of the Ministry of the Interior**



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Policy for the Integration of Foreign Nationals in the Territory of the Czech Republic

From the very start, the **Policy for the Integration of Foreign Nationals** has relied on the involvement of a number of ministerial departments (the Ministry of the Interior; the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs; the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports; the Ministry of Industry and Trade; the Ministry of Health; the Ministry for Regional Development and the Ministry of Culture) as well as other partners (non-governmental non-profit organisations and foreign nationals' organisations, regional and local governments, academic sphere, etc.). In this way, it responds to the fact that the **integration of foreign nationals is a comprehensive problem** concerning a number of areas.



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Target group

The basic target group for the integration of foreign nationals consists of third-country nationals (i.e. the nationals of non-EU countries) legally residing in the territory of the Czech Republic who are neither applicants for international protection nor persons enjoying international protection. In exceptional critical cases, this target group may also include EU citizens. Specific measures of the [State Integration Programme](#) apply to the integration of recognized refugees.



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Priorities in the Integration of Foreign Nationals

The targeted measures intended to serve as conditions of key importance for the successful integration of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic include:

- the foreign national's knowledge of the Czech language;
- economic self-sufficiency of the foreign national;
- the foreign national's knowledge of this country's society;
- mutual relations between foreign nationals and the majority society.