



EU policy in the field of Integration

**European Commission
DG HOME Affairs**

Mandate of the EU and existing tools for integration of third country nationals

EU mandate: what can the EU do in the field of integration of third-country nationals ?

No harmonisation of legislation

Art 79(4) TFEU : "... may establish measures to provide incentives and **support for the action of Member States** with a view to promoting the integration of third-country nationals residing legally in their territories, **excluding any harmonization of the laws and regulations of the Member States**".

↳ **"Soft" measures: funding + non-legislative tools**



EU Funding

- European Social Fund (ESF)
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- ERASMUS +
- Asylum Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)

Other tools for Integration Policy

- Common Basic Principles on Integration (2004)
- European Website on Integration (EWSI)
- European Semester – Country specific recommendations
- European Integration Network (EIN)

The Action plan on the integration of Third-Country Nationals

Context

- Around 20 million **third country nationals** in the EU – or 4% of the total EU population
- Reasons for migration to the EU:
 - 39% came for family reasons,
 - 32% for work,
 - 10% for study
 - 9% for international protection**

Context

Unfavourable outcomes in many areas:

- Lower **employment** than host-country nationals (53% vs 65%)
- Much larger risk of **poverty and social exclusion** (49% vs 23%)
- Larger share of **low-education** (44% vs 23%)

Context

In 2015: high influx of asylum seekers

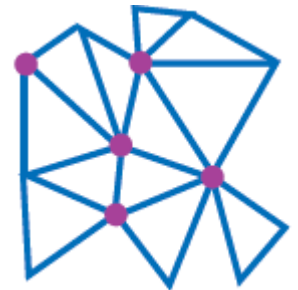
1,321,600 asylum applications

Mostly directed at DE, SE, AT



Main features of the action plan

- **Cross DGs** and sectoral approach
- **General policy framework** for integration
- Support Member States efforts with concrete tools (more than **50 actions**)
- **All third-country nationals** with focus on refugees



Five priority areas

Five priority areas:

1. Pre-departure/pre arrival
2. Education
3. Labour market integration and access to vocational training
4. Access to basic services
5. Active participation and social inclusion