



## Inclusion for all: Commission presents action plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027

Brussels, 24 November 2020

Today, the Commission is presenting the [action plan on Integration and Inclusion for the period 2021-2027](#). The action plan promotes inclusion for all, recognising the important contribution of migrants to the EU and addressing the barriers that can hinder participation and inclusion of people with a migrant background, from newcomers to citizens, in European society. It is built on the principle that inclusive integration requires efforts from both the person and the host community and sets out new actions that build on the achievements of the previous action plan from 2016.

Vice-President for Promoting our European Way of Life, Margaritis **Schinias**, said: *"Inclusion is the embodiment of the European way of life. Integration and inclusion policies are vital for newcomers, for local communities, and contribute to cohesive societies and strong economies. Everyone who has the right to be in Europe should have access to the tools they need to realise their full potential and assume the rights and obligations governing our Union."*

Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva **Johansson**, said: *"Migrants are 'us', not 'them'. Everyone has a role to play in making sure our societies are cohesive and prosperous. Integration and inclusion mean listening to migrant communities and ensuring that everyone can enjoy rights, regardless of background. Inclusive integration is giving the same tools and support needed to contribute to society, so that migrants can reach their full potential and our societies benefit from their strength and skills."*

### A European approach to integration and inclusion

As emphasised in the [new Pact on Migration and Asylum](#), successful integration and inclusion is an essential part of a well-managed and effective migration and asylum policy. It is also essential for social cohesion and for a dynamic economy that works for all.

The action plan proposes **targeted and tailored support** that takes into account individual characteristics that may present specific challenges to people with a migrant background, such as gender or religious background. Successful integration and inclusion depends both on early action and on long-term commitment.

Although national governments are primarily responsible for creating and implementing social policies, the EU plays a key role in supporting Member States through funding, developing guidance and fostering relevant partnerships. The main actions are:

- **Inclusive education and training** from early childhood to higher education, focusing on facilitating the recognition of qualifications and continued language learning, with support from EU funds.
- **Improving employment opportunities and skills recognition** to fully value the contribution of migrant communities, and women in particular, and ensure that they are supported to reach their full potential. The Commission will work with social and economic partners and employers to promote labour market integration, support entrepreneurship and make it easier for employers to recognise and assess skills.
- **Promoting access to health** services, including mental healthcare, for people with a migrant background. In addition to dedicated EU funding, the action plan seeks to ensure people are informed about their rights and recognises the specific challenges faced by women, in particular during and after pregnancy. The action plan also supports Member States to exchange best practice.
- Access to **adequate and affordable housing** funded through the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund Plus, Asylum and Migration Fund and Invest EU, as well as funding platforms to exchange of experience at local and regional level on fighting discrimination on the housing market and segregation.

The action plan will be implemented by mobilising EU **funding** and by creating **partnerships** with all

those involved: migrants, host communities, social and economic partners, civil society, local and regional authorities as well as the private sector. It will empower host communities and support their role in the design and implementation of integration measures and programmes, while also emphasising the responsibility of the people concerned in participating in the host society. It will seek to **modernise** access to services by using digital tools. Finally, it will improve the **evidence base** to help further development of policies and to ensure good monitoring of results.

## Background

Today, around 34 million EU inhabitants were born outside the EU (around 8% of the EU population), and 10% of young people (15–34 years) born in the EU have at least one foreign-born parent. Migrants and EU citizens with a migrant background play a key role in European society and in different sectors of our economy, including as essential workers. However, they continue to face challenges in terms of access to education, employment, healthcare and social inclusion ([see statistics](#)).

The action plan on Integration and Inclusion complements existing and upcoming EU strategies to foster equality and social cohesion to ensure everyone is fully included and able to participate in European societies. It will be implemented with the forthcoming action plan to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights and the [EU's anti-racism action plan](#). It will also be closely linked with the [EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation](#); the [Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025](#); the [LGBTIQ equality strategy 2020-2025](#), the forthcoming strategy to combat antisemitism and the EU citizenship report.

## For More Information

[Action plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027](#)

[Staff Working Document](#)

[Report on the consultation on the integration and inclusion of migrants and people with a migrant background](#)

[Analysis of the responses to the public consultation on the integration and inclusion of migrants and people with a migrant background Synthesis report](#)

[MEMO](#): Action plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027: Questions and Answers

[Factsheet](#): Action plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027

[Website on Integration](#)

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