

D.T1.5.2 - Research paper abstract on Social Innovation

The number of people willing to settle and take up employment on the territory of the European Union has dramatically increased in recent years, which placed the EU's migration policy in the focus of public interest.

This document, "A Transnational Strategy for Social Innovation in the Integration of Non-EU Nationals", concentrates on topics related to the integration of non-EU in rural Central Europe. The authors deal primarily with non-EU nationals that are defined as legitimate EU residents without EU's citizenship.

The results of the current inflow of non-EU nationals will depend on how these newcomers are welcomed and to what extent they integrate with local communities. The subject of integration of non-EU nationals lies primarily in the hands of individual EU Member States. However, for the last 20 years EU has promoted the knowledge exchange, mutual learning and collaboration and in addition to that has also provided funds and contributed frameworks for development of migration management and anti-discrimination policies^[1].

The subjects of migration and integration are closely interrelated. The existing EU's directives on migration define a set of minimal requirements for entry and residence, as well as prescribe equal treatment rights. EU Member States enjoy a degree of freedom in their implementation of these directives, which creates noticeable discrepancies in national migration law throughout the EU. Because of these differences, non-EU nationals, including asylum seekers and refugees, relocate between the countries, which defers the beginning of their integration with local communities. Another factor that hinders the integration is the time-intensity of the application processing.

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^[1] European Court of Auditors, „*Integration of non-EU migrants. Analytical document*”, June 2018, p. 3.

^[2] <https://www.ewt.gov.pl/strony/o-programach/przeczytaj-o-programach/programy-europejskiej-wspolpracy-terytorialnej/europa-srodkowa/>