



**Funded by the  
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2023.40 Public libraries and promotion of democracy knowledge as a resource for integration of third-country nationals

Requested by EMN Latvia on 27 September 2023

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain (21 in Total)

*Disclaimer:*

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## **1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

As a result of the administrative-territorial reform in Latvia, the network of cultural institutions will be optimized, also creating new synergies both between cultural institutions and with other sectoral institutions, such as libraries becoming involved in ensuring access to state and municipal services in the regions.

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The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia as Delegated Authority of Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund is planning to organize an open call within activity "Activities that provide innovative approaches to promote integration process". Taking into account the existing experience of libraries implementing projects for inclusive society, the Ministry of Culture would like to gather experience from other Member States to identify the range of activities libraries implement in the field of integration and social inclusion for third - country nationals implementing projects within the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. Information provided would assist in elaboration of conditions for project call in order to get the best results and make sure that the new submitted projects will create new forms of cooperation and promote building an inclusive society.

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia is responsible for implementation of activity "Cohesion of society by promoting skills of self-organisation and improving opportunities for cooperation and participation" under structural funds of EU.

According to data, society - civic participation is weak and social dialogue and civic participation is low thus by implementing activity, we would like to strengthen overall knowledge of democracy in the society of Latvia and therefore improve mutual cooperation and participation of third - country nationals at local and regional level. We believe that thus we will enhance cohesion of society and inclusion of disadvantaged groups.

Support is planned for the development and empowerment of self-organisation, cooperation and participation skills, especially for low-income groups, non-citizens and Russian-speakers, ethnic minorities, the Roma community and the diaspora. Public participation activities are planned to promote the development of a cohesive and civically active society, raise awareness of the common good and foster a sense of responsibility for fellow human beings, and promote mutual trust and solidarity between different groups in society.

Information provided would assist in elaboration of conditions for project call in order to create new forms of cooperation and promote building an inclusive society.

Therefore, we would like to ask to identify the best project examples of other EU Member states of activities that include libraries as project promoters or partners (Q1-Q4), as well as the best project examples of other EU Member states identifying centralized mechanisms (for example know-how incubators) for enhancing cohesion of society by regional nongovernmental organisations (NGO) as project promoters (Q5-Q6).

**We would like to ask the following questions:**

**1. Does your Member State view public libraries as a tool to promote integration to third-country nationals and building an inclusive society?**

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*Available choices: Yes, No, Not Applicable*

2. If your answer to question 1 is Yes, please describe role and experience.

3. Does your MS have organized call for proposals funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) where libraries took place as project promoters or project partners?

*Available choices: Yes, No, Not Applicable*

4. If your answer to question 3 is YES, can you please indicate what activities were provided and implemented by libraries to promote integration process and build an inclusive society within the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)? Please provide the links of the projects if possible.

5. Does your Member State have any examples where regional or local level NGOs were acting as agencies (know-how incubators) for promotion of democracy knowledge to enhance more cohesive society?

*Available choices: Yes, No, Not Applicable*

6. If your answer to question 5 is YES, can you please indicate what activities were provided and implemented by NGOs to strengthen overall knowledge of democracy in the society and therefore improve mutual cooperation and participation of individuals at local and regional level, especially vulnerable groups. Please provide the links of the projects if possible.

We would very much appreciate your responses by **27 October 2023**.

## 2. RESPONSES


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<sup>1</sup> If possible at time of making the request, the Requesting EMN NCP should add their response(s) to the query. Otherwise, this should be done at the time of making the compilation.


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		Wider Dissemination	
	EMN NCP Austria	Yes	<p>1. No ---Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3. No No, the Federal Chancellery does not fund projects implemented by libraries through AMIF.---Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5. The promotion of democracy knowledge is organized directly by the Republic of Austria and is part of the mandatory three-day values and orientation courses offered by the Austrian Integration Fund, which is owned by the Republic.---Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>6. Values and orientation courses take place in all provinces at the nine integration centers of the Austrian Integration Fund. They are free of charge and are conducted by specially trained instructors from the Austrian Integration Fund. The course language is German, and interpreters for the languages Arabic, Dari/Farsi, Pashto, Russian, English, and Somali are available if needed. In addition to orientation knowledge, the 2nd day of the course in particular focuses on constitutional values and legal integration: thus also involving the legal foundations of living together, democracy and the rule of law, equality and self-determination, etc. - more detailed information can be found at: <a href="https://www.integrationsfonds.at/kurse/werte-und-orientierungskurse/werte-und-orientierungskurse/">https://www.integrationsfonds.at/kurse/werte-und-orientierungskurse/werte-und-orientierungskurse/</a></p> <p>---</p>


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			Source: Ministry of the Interior
	EMN NCP Belgium	Yes	<p>1. No</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. In Belgium, integration policy is a competence of the federated entities (Walloon Region, Flemish Community, German-speaking Community, Brussels-Capital Region).          In the Walloon Region: in order to support its integration policy, eight non-profit associations, called “Regional Integration Centres” (Centres régionaux d’intégration - CRI) are mandated by the Walloon government to develop, implement and organise the civic integration programme. These Centres also have as mission to encourage social, economic and political participation of third-country nationals in intercultural exchanges, and to promote civic participation and democracy. In parallel, the Walloon Region supports “Local Integration Initiative” (Initiatives locales d’intégration - ILI), which are non-profit organisations, local authorities, foundations, public utility establishments and international non-profit organisations which carry out one or more actions to support the integration of foreigners in Wallonia: French language training, citizenship training, social support, or legal support in the field of immigration law. This document (in French) details the activities that can be carried out as part of the call for projects of the Walloon Region (<a href="http://actionsociale.wallonie.be/sites/default/files/AAP%20ILI%202022-20...">http://actionsociale.wallonie.be/sites/default/files/AAP%20ILI%202022-20...</a>).          In the Flemish Community: in addition to the pillars of social orientation, learning Dutch and a pathway to work, the civic integration programme is extended by a 4th pillar in 2023, namely a participation and networking trajectory. With this participation and networking trajectory, the persons integrating follow an additional tailor-</p>

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			<p>made programme to strengthen their social network and participation. Some examples are a buddy project, an introductory internship at a company, association, organisation or local government or volunteer work. The participation and networking programme lasts a minimum of 40 hours. The person integrating can combine various activities. The activities take place in a Dutch-speaking context and must promote social participation. Several regional or local level NGO's offer the opportunity for buddy projects or volunteer work. There is for example the Federation for Global and Democratic Organisations (<a href="https://www.fmdo.be/fmdo">https://www.fmdo.be/fmdo</a>) which supports member associations, works through projects to make a positive impact in the super-diverse society and coordinates buddy projects.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Croatia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. 1) The contribution of libraries to the development of a multicultural society is exceptional and important. Libraries are institutions where one can access necessary information, learn, culturally develop, gather, and spend leisure time. The role of libraries is recognizing by the Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities which is preparing a project co-funded by AMIF. As part of this project, one of the activities focuses on libraries within the local community. This particular activity aims to implement local initiatives for the social inclusion of third-country nationals in libraries located in four cities. Financial resources for these local initiatives will be allocated based on the developed proposals, and they will be executed through contracts in the four libraries within these cities. The goals of these local initiatives encompass increasing public awareness about the challenges of integrating third-country nationals. This will include a special emphasis on individuals granted international and temporary protection, and an effort to familiarize them with cultural and traditional similarities and differences when compared to the most common categories of third-country nationals in the community. Furthermore, the initiatives seek to strengthen social interaction between the local community and third-country nationals.</p> <p>Below, you can find one example of a good practice:</p> <p>2) After few Syrian families were resettled to city of Karlovac, the Ivan Goran Kovačić City Library in Karlovac very soon became one of the stakeholders that helped them integrate into the Croatian society faster and more easily. Social mentors brought the Syrian families and the City Library staff together. In the first months, the staff</p>

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			<p>worked with the new beneficiaries informally, mostly in the form of organising occasional Croatian language courses for young people on the Library premises. Aiming to organise systematic activities and learn more about working with refugees, the Ivan Goran Kovačić City Library in Karlovac applied for Erasmus+ with the project “Unlocking Library Potentials Through Inclusion”. The project was co-financed by the EU under Erasmus+, Key Action KA104 (adult learning). The key objectives of the project included developing the library staff’s competences through mobility in European countries, and learning new skills and gaining new experience to aid in working with disadvantaged social groups. The skills and knowledge thus gained were going to be used to improve the quality of the existing services for vulnerable groups, but also to develop new services and programmes for asylees and migrants. Among the three mobility activities that they applied with and that were financed under Erasmus+, the first dealt exclusively with working with migrants. The first activity took place at the City Library in Ljubljana, Slovenia on 4-10 October 2020. Participants acquired new knowledge and skills to reinforce the Library’s existing services that include working with asylees and other vulnerable groups, and develop new ones. When the mobility activity was concluded, the implementation of the newly acquired skills started in the Library’s work with asylees. The objective of this project was to position the library as a recognisable centre for working with vulnerable groups of adult beneficiaries in order to integrate them into the social and economic life. The programme included carefully designed creative and educational programmes and activities, including innovation in working with migrants:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Croatian language learning. Additional learning assistance is provided to beneficiaries who come across minor or major difficulties in learning the Croatian language and culture.</li> <li>2. Programmes promoting entrepreneurship and financial literacy. The Business Library of the Ivan Goran Kovačić City Library in Karlovac is the first library of this kind in Croatia. So far, the Business Library’s services were focused on promoting entrepreneurship and financial literacy among young people. Now the Library has expanded its services to other vulnerable groups as well (with a particular focus on migrants, applicants for asylum, and women in a disadvantaged position). Migrants contribute to the economic growth of their recipient countries in a number of ways, introducing new skills and competences, and helping alleviate workforce shortages. In addition, raising awareness of the positive role migrants can play as entrepreneurs contributes to a balanced perception of immigration in the public.</li> <li>3. Digital/ICT literacy. The training was designed to give the attendants the basic knowledge of ICT skills.</li> </ol>
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		<p>Attendants were taught how to use computers for basic purposes such as writing personal/business correspondence, searching for information online (laws, human rights, job opportunities etc), sending e-mails, preparing presentations, managing their finances, etc.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Individual support. Individual support ensures the inclusion of beneficiaries in the community, helps them find jobs or study programmes to enrol into, provides access to all library services, and presents lifelong learning opportunities provided by the library.</li> <li>5. Cultural competence sharing. Experiences, customs and values from their country of origin are shared with the new group of beneficiaries in order to overcome existing stereotypes, promote tolerance and interculturalism, and contribute to social integration.</li> </ol> <p>The implementation of programmes and activities for the families from Syria started in July 2021. Before organising the trainings for adult beneficiaries, an initial survey was carried out to find out about their needs and areas of interest, and a learning plan was drawn up based on this information. Even though the library is an informal education institution, in preparing the Croatian language courses for asylees, the Library follows the Decision of the Ministry of Education and Science on the Croatian language, history and language learning programme for asylees and foreigners under subsidiary protection for purposes of inclusion into the Croatian society, taking into account the recipients' previous learning, and adapting the programme to their conditions, needs etc.</p> <p>During the summer, the programme was organised every Saturday morning at the Youth Library. Children came to the Youth Library together with their parents, where volunteers from the Karlovac Grammar School helped them with their school tasks (homework, repetition, learning for exams...). Taking into account the wishes and interests expressed by programme participants, two educational tourist tours of the old Karlovac city centre were organised during the summer in cooperation with licensed tourist guides. The tours were an excellent way to teach the families from Syria about the cultural, historic and tourist heritage of Karlovac.</p> <p>Having seen stories about the Library in local media and on local TV, librarians from the Library of the Zagreb Faculty of Philosophy started a campaign to collect and donate Croatian language learning books and books to add to the collection of the Central Library of Slovenians in Croatia to the Ivan Goran Kovačić City Library. Foreign Croatian and Slovenian language learners were granted the access to and use of the donated books at the Library.</p>
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			<p>In June 2022, the Dialogue Culture Centre, in cooperation with the Ivan Goran Kovačić City Library, prepared a presentation of Syrian customs, culture, food, and in particular the children’s successes, titled “Dialogue with the Orient – Getting to Know Syria”, under the project “New Neighbours”. The Syrian families living in Karlovac today are an example of good integration of refugees, having been accepted wonderfully by the locals. The event was designed as a meeting place for the new arrivals from Syria and the locals from Karlovac. Little Syrians showed how well they learned the Croatian language, presented their taekwondo skills, and demonstrated the progress they have made in learning to play musical instruments. This all goes to show that, in addition to attending regular education, they like to participate in sports and fun activities, and have made the first step in their assimilation into the Croatian society by themselves.</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. No</p> <p>6. N/A</p>
	EMN NCP Cyprus	Yes	<p>1. No</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. No</p>

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			6. N/A
	EMN NCP Czech Republic	Yes	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. The Czech Republic adopted the first Policy for the Integration of Immigrants in the year 2000. In the framework of its implementation, libraries have been involved in several cases. These were usually NGO projects aimed at supporting libraries in opening up to immigrants and training library staff in basic counselling. A project for tutoring children after school on the library premises has long been considered as very good. The involvement is mixed - both children from the majority society and immigrants are tutored, and you can find immigrants among tutors. Thus, overall, libraries do not play a key role in the integration of foreigners, but they can be a very good support place and base for supplementary activities.</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. No</p> <p>6. N/A</p>
	EMN NCP Estonia	Yes	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. Public libraries have an important role in promoting the integration of third-country nationals. For example, as of spring 2022, libraries have assisted Ukrainian war refugees (and other newly arrived migrants) in using digital tools, including how to register for the adaption programme (which can also be done in an online environment). Libraries offer computer access to different government services, such as adaption programme 's online training. Libraries act as important cultural centres at local level, for example by hosting integration events, language cafes and other language learning activities. Same activities are planned for the future as well, including in the framework of projects funded by the European Social Fund during the new funding period.</p>

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			<p>3. No</p> <p>4. Comment: Until now, libraries have not taken part in AMIF-funded calls for proposal. However, the Ministry of Culture has supported a nationwide project called "All Estonia Reads!" (in Estonian: Kogu Eesti loeb!) - libraries organized events to bring together people with different mother languages on National Minorities Day in several regions across Estonia.</p> <p>Comment: Regarding plans for the future, within the framework of Estonian-Switzerland cooperation programme, the Ministry of Culture will sign a partnership agreement with the National Library of Estonia (Rahvusraamatukogu) to provide free digital and media literacy training to Estonian residents aged 50+ (mainly low-income, newly arrived migrants and non-native speakers). The aim of the project is to increase the coherence and cohesion of Estonian society by promoting access to modern objective information, unbiased media and secure digital services.</p> <p>5. No</p> <p>6. N/A</p>
+	EMN NCP Finland	Yes	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. Public Libraries Act (1492/2016): Section 2: Objectives (1) The objectives of this Act are to promote: 1) equal opportunities for everyone to access education and culture; 2) availability and use of information; 3) reading culture and versatile literacy skills; 4) opportunities for lifelong learning and competence development; 5) active citizenship, democracy and freedom of expression. (2) The implementation of these objectives is based on sense of community, pluralism and cultural diversity.</p> <p>Section 6: Duties of public libraries Public libraries are tasked with:</p>


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		<p>1) providing access to materials, information and cultural contents; 2) maintaining versatile and up-to-date collections; 3) promoting reading and literature; 4) providing information services, guidance and support in the acquisition and use of information and in versatile literacy skills; 5) providing premises for learning, recreational activities, working, and civic activities; 6) promoting social and cultural dialogue.</p> <p>Concrete examples of activities aimed at promoting integration to third-country nationals and building an inclusive society:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multilingual library – Library services for foreigners living in Finland             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Multilingual library offers a collection of books and other material for children, young adults and adults in more than 80 languages. Library is located in Helsinki but library materials can be delivered to other libraries in Finland upon request.</li> <li>○ Multilingual Library is funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Libraries as Forums of Democracy - pilot project by the Finnish Innovation Fund SITRA (2020–2021)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trials were carried out in 6 different libraries in Finland to test different forms of interaction and to improve people’s opportunities to influence and participate in societal decision-making. Not directly aimed at third-country nationals but different libraries aimed at activating different groups in society e.g. marginalized groups or people who feel as if politics is a distant subject.</li> <li>○ Pilot was successful. Additional funding from the project led to more concrete measures and practices on how libraries can promote democracy knowledge and political participation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>3. No</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. The Finnish Refugee Council is an NGO specialized in the issues of forced displacement and migration. The Finnish Refugee Council produces all kinds of material for different actors in society, for example, they provide civic orientation training textbooks. These materials have open access and are available on the website of the</p>
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			<p>Finnish Refugee Council. Particularly, the civic orientation training textbooks are aimed at adults who have recently moved to Finland since they provide information on Finnish society. One of the topics in the civic orientation training textbooks is Politics and Civic participation in Finland which strengthens the knowledge of democracy of Finnish society among migrants.</p> <p>Materials: <a href="https://pakolaisapu.fi/materiaalit/">https://pakolaisapu.fi/materiaalit/</a> (Page is in Finnish but materials can be found in English and other languages under “Yhteiskuntaorientaatio”).</p> <p>Projects funded by ministries but NGOs and other actors actively involved in the projects:</p> <p>Another actor is the Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations (Etno) which is coordinated by the Ministry of Justice. Etno aims at enhancing dialogue and cooperation among immigrants, ethnic, cultural and religious minorities, the authorities, political parties and NGOs by organizing regular meetings and discussion events with different actors. In addition, one of their functions is to enhance the democratic knowledge and societal activities of the ethnic minorities. Even though Etno is coordinated by the government, its advisory board consists of different actors from different levels in society. At least ten of the members of the advisory board have to be immigrants or ethnic minorities.</p> <p>More can be found here: <a href="https://oikeusministerio.fi/en/the-advisory-board-for-ethnic-relations">https://oikeusministerio.fi/en/the-advisory-board-for-ethnic-relations</a></p> <p>The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment is also financing ‘Good Population relations’ –project which aims at increasing inclusion and participation of the ethnic minorities in Finland. It is implemented in cooperation with the local NGOs in different regions. Municipalities, organisations and civil society are in a vital role to promote interaction between people at local level.</p> <p>More can be found here: <a href="https://kotoutuminen.fi/en/good-ethnic-relation">https://kotoutuminen.fi/en/good-ethnic-relation</a></p>
	EMN NCP France	Yes	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. For several years now, public libraries in France have been confronted with the challenge of welcoming migrants and refugees, and the role they can play in supporting these groups. Open in principle to all, they are mobilizing to set up actions and initiatives to meet their specific needs and expectations.</p> <p>In 2015, the Public Information Library (Bibliothèque publique d’information - Bpi), a national public institution under the authority of the Minister of Culture, in conjunction with the International Federation of Library</p>

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		<p>Associations (IFLA) and the European Library and Documentation Association (EBLIDA), launched a survey among French public libraries to better recognize their role in welcoming migrants and refugees. This led to the organization of several study days on the subject at national and local levels on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• September 29, 2015 in Calais, on the challenges of welcoming migrants in libraries (see: <a href="https://pro.bpi.fr/les-migrants-un-public-de-bibliotheque-quels-besoins-quels-accueils-1/">https://pro.bpi.fr/les-migrants-un-public-de-bibliotheque-quels-besoins-quels-accueils-1/</a> )</li> <li>• June 16, 2016, at the National museum of the history of immigration, on the historical, administrative, linguistic and cultural contexts of migrants, with the aim of gaining a better understanding of contemporary migration and better grasping the diversity of the journeys of those who experience it, in order to think about how to welcome migrant audiences (see: <a href="https://pro.bpi.fr/laccueil-des-publics-migrants-en-bibliotheque/">https://pro.bpi.fr/laccueil-des-publics-migrants-en-bibliotheque/</a> )</li> <li>• June 8, 2017 at the François Mitterrand - les Capucins media library in Brest, dedicated to "Migrants and libraries: enhancing intercultural dialogue", which was jointly organized by the Bpi, the Nantes municipal library, "Livre et lecture en Bretagne" and the Brest media library network. The aim of the day was to show how the library can also be a place where intercultural dialogue can be experienced and enhanced, in which migrants are not just users, but also participants, bearers and creators. It was an opportunity to question the notion of interculturality and to discuss concrete experiences that have been carried out in libraries. (see: <a href="https://pro.bpi.fr/migrants-et-bibliotheques--valoriser-le-dialogue-interculturel/">https://pro.bpi.fr/migrants-et-bibliotheques--valoriser-le-dialogue-interculturel/</a>)</li> </ul> <p>This survey has also led to the publication of a series of action sheets covering programs related to these issues that have been set up in multiple public libraries (see <a href="https://pro.bpi.fr/quelques-ressources-en-ligne-sur-et-pour-laccueil-des-publics-migrants/">https://pro.bpi.fr/quelques-ressources-en-ligne-sur-et-pour-laccueil-des-publics-migrants/</a> ).</p> <p>These include several projects implemented in partnership with NGOs, such as :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Migrants at the Bpi": a partnership with France Terre d'Asile: information sessions to inform the migrant public present daily at the library about their rights ( <a href="https://pro.bpi.fr/fiche-pratique/migrants-a-la-bpi/">https://pro.bpi.fr/fiche-pratique/migrants-a-la-bpi/</a> )</li> <li>• Welcoming migrants to the Vaclav Havel library of the Paris library network: Regular organization of courses and workshops (<a href="https://pro.bpi.fr/laccueil-du-public-de-migrants-a-la-bibliotheque-vaclav-havel/">https://pro.bpi.fr/laccueil-du-public-de-migrants-a-la-bibliotheque-vaclav-havel/</a> )</li> <li>• Book workshops for migrants at the Vénissieux mediatheque: democratizing access to the library, offering allophones the chance to practice their French (<a href="https://pro.bpi.fr/fiche-pratique/ateliers-autour-du-livre-a-">https://pro.bpi.fr/fiche-pratique/ateliers-autour-du-livre-a-</a></li> </ul>
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		<p><a href="#">destination-des-publics-migrants/</a>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcoming social associations for self-training at the Bpi of the Pompidou Center : Support during closing hours, to encourage people to return individually to use the library's resources (<a href="https://pro.bpi.fr/fiche-pratique/accueil-des-associations-du-champs-social-en-autoformation/">https://pro.bpi.fr/fiche-pratique/accueil-des-associations-du-champs-social-en-autoformation/</a> )</li> </ul> <p>“Livre et lecture en Bretagne” in partnership with the “Bibliothèque des Champs libres” and in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture (General Delegation for the French language and languages of France, Department of Books and Reading, and Brittany Regional Department of Cultural Affairs), and the Interregional Federation for Books and Reading (FILL); the Bpi, the Association of French Librarians (Association des bibliothécaires de France - ABF) and the National Agency to Combat Illiteracy (Agence nationale de lutte contre l'illettrisme - ANLCI), organized the "When words fail " national meetings on May 19 and 20, 2022, on the role of libraries in providing access to reading and the French language. A workshop was devoted to welcoming allophones in libraries (the most popular workshop), and the Directorate for Integration and Access to Citizenship presented a plenary session focusing on "Learning the French language as part of the integration process for migrants".</p> <p>In addition, on June 9, 2023, a partnership was signed between the Inter-ministerial Delegation for the Reception and Integration of Refugees (Délégation interministérielle à l'accueil et à l'intégration des réfugiés - Diair) and the association Libraries Without Borders, to develop actions relating to culture and education, and in particular to rethink the reception of refugees through books, with the aim of promoting mutual learning. Throughout the school year, students and teachers choose books to introduce to their fellow students who have recently arrived in France. The partnership includes the development of the "My Bag of Books" project and support for the micro library scheme (<a href="https://accueil-integration-refugies.fr/parteneriat-entre-la-diair-et-bibliotheques-sans-frontieres-pour-developper-les-actions-relatives-a-la-culture-et-leducation/">https://accueil-integration-refugies.fr/parteneriat-entre-la-diair-et-bibliotheques-sans-frontieres-pour-developper-les-actions-relatives-a-la-culture-et-leducation/</a> ).</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. N/A</p>
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			<p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. In France, almost 1,500 associations are involved in implementing the policy for welcoming and integrating newly-arrived foreign nationals. The associative sector acts as a local intermediary with local populations, promoting access to rights and autonomy, through the actions it implements in the fields of language training, professional integration, social support and access to citizenship.</p> <p>Within this framework, the interdepartmental regional directorates for the economy, employment, labor and solidarity (Directions régionales interdépartementales de l'économie, de l'emploi, du travail et des solidarités - DRIEETS), launch annual calls for projects for the regional and Departmental implementation of national guidelines integration policy for newly arrived foreign nationals. The priorities of these projects are currently based in particular on comprehensive support, defined as all actions aimed at informing, guiding and co-constructing the career path of newly arrived foreign nationals. ), promoting the values of the French Republic, language skills and vocational training, in order to foster the autonomy and integration of these groups into French society; and the VOLONT'R program, designed to help young people rethink their view of migration and promote the integration of refugees into French society through civic service missions.</p> <p>For example, in the <i>Ile-de-France</i> region, the DRIEETS finances and lists in a guide in the form of a "Mapping of projects in favour of refugees and new arrivals in the Ile-de-France region" (see: <a href="https://idf.drieets.gouv.fr/sites/idf.drieets.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/cartographie_des_projets_integration.pdf">https://idf.drieets.gouv.fr/sites/idf.drieets.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/cartographie_des_projets_integration.pdf</a> ) several associative projects financed by these calls for projects, such as :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The "Open Schools to Parents for Children's Success" (Ouvrir l'École aux parents pour la réussite des enfants - OEPRE) training program is designed to promote the integration of newly-arrived foreign nationals parents, by involving them in their child's schooling. The program focuses on three areas: acquisition of French (understanding, speaking, reading and writing); knowledge of the values of the Republic and how they are applied in French society; and knowledge of how the school operates and what it expects of students and parents. Project link: <a href="https://framacarte.org/fr/map/cartographie-des-associations_128649#13/48.8609/2.3545">https://framacarte.org/fr/map/cartographie-des-associations_128649#13/48.8609/2.3545</a></li> <li>• The "Language and Citizenship" project run by the Atellanes association, which offers vocational language training for young refugees, including appropriation of the principles of the Republic and the customs of</li> </ul>
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			<p>French society.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Several VOLONT'R projects, such as those run by :<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The A-I-M-E association (Association Internationale de Mobilisation pour l'Egalité) offers civic service missions to young refugees or newly-arrived foreign nationals, working in pairs with young French nationals, in order to help them establish lasting social and cultural roots. Link: <a href="https://aime-ong.org/service-civique/">https://aime-ong.org/service-civique/</a></li><li>○ Unis-Cité welcomes young newly-arrived foreign nationals either as part of its Coop'R mission (10 young refugees paired with 10 young French people), or as part of its program teams (20 young French speakers on average and between 1 and 2 foreign national per promotion), or as intermediaries within partner associations. The missions cover a wide range of themes: sustainable development, support for senior citizens, culture, citizenship, digital inclusion, etc. Link: <a href="https://www.uniscite.fr/engage-toi/trouve-ta-mission-service-civique/">https://www.uniscite.fr/engage-toi/trouve-ta-mission-service-civique/</a></li></ul></li></ul> <p>In addition, on June 5, 2023, the Diar organized the 5th annual meeting of refugee reception and integration stakeholders, more commonly known as the Agora, on the theme of "the commitment of refugees in French society". The meeting featured workshops on culture and youth, as well as a round-table discussion on the commitment of refugees, to illustrate their individual commitments.</p> <p>In addition, some associations themselves play a role in promoting local projects. The Fondation de France, a philanthropic network association, through its Solidarités Migrants program, provides local associations with financial support and helps them to structure and specialize in order to create a network of solidarity. Project link: <a href="https://www.fondationdefrance.org/fr/solidarite-migrants">https://www.fondationdefrance.org/fr/solidarite-migrants</a></p> <p>Within the city of Paris, the Fondation Notre Dame, an association recognized as a public utility, through its "Aid to migrants and refugees" program, organizes competitions to support a number of associations providing social support and assistance for the integration of migrants in Paris. Projects funded include material assistance, integration training and cultural conferences. Link to projects: <a href="https://www.fondationnotredame.fr/nos-actions/les-projets-que-notre-fondation-soutient-solidarite-education-culture?pub=3&amp;secteur&amp;annee">https://www.fondationnotredame.fr/nos-actions/les-projets-que-notre-fondation-soutient-solidarite-education-culture?pub=3&amp;secteur&amp;annee</a></p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Germany</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. In Germany public libraries are within the jurisdiction of the municipalities. They play a crucial role in promoting integration among third-country nationals and building an inclusive society. These institutions serve as accessible hubs of knowledge, providing resources that cater to diverse backgrounds and interests. By offering books, educational materials, and language-learning resources, libraries empower immigrants to enhance their language skills and cultural understanding, facilitating their integration into the host society. Moreover, public libraries often host community events, workshops, and discussion forums that encourage social interaction among residents, fostering a sense of belonging and mutual understanding. In essence, public libraries act as catalysts for integration by providing a welcoming space, educational resources, and community engagement opportunities, thereby promoting understanding, tolerance, and unity among diverse groups. The project funding of the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees includes in some integration projects inter alia public libraries, but has no main focus here.</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. On 1 August 2023, the DE AMIF Managing Authority published the call for projects for the application of AMIF funding projects on the website <a href="http://www.eu-migrationsfonds.de">www.eu-migrationsfonds.de</a>. This is an ongoing call for funding for the AMIF funding period 2021-2027, which covers all four specific objectives of AMIF funding: Asylum, Integration, Return and Reintegration and Solidarity among Member States. To date, no project applications have been submitted by libraries as project applicants under Specific Objective 2 "Legal migration and promotion of the effective integration of non-EU citizens".</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. In the AMIF funding period (2014 - 2020), individual projects were funded under Specific Objective 2 "Integration" that address the topic of "promoting democracy", among other things. These projects not only aim to</p>
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			<p>promote democracy, but also pursue other objectives. In particular, the following two projects by non-governmental organisations should be highlighted.</p> <p>1st project: "PROFEM"                  Project organiser: Alevi Federation Germany e.V.                  Project description: The 3-year project of the Alevi Federation Germany aimed to activate civic engagement and promote the participation of volunteers in 147 local communities across Germany. In addition to these goals, the project promoted universal values such as democracy and tolerance. As part of the project, more than 1100 people were trained in around 50 seminars to develop their skills and expand their knowledge in the areas of club management/Federal Republic of Germany/European Union/democracy/intercultural sensitivity, among others.</p> <p>2nd project: "Democracy! Step by Step" Explore, discover and experience democracy!                  Project sponsor: Bürgerzentrum Neue Vahr e.V.                  Project description:                  The project aimed to enable social integration and equal opportunities for the target group. The third-country nationals were accompanied in a process of understanding democracy and encouraged to take on civic engagement and responsibility for democracy in Germany. The funding recipient accompanied the participants along the way by enabling them to acquire democratic competences "step by step". The participants were encouraged to get involved, to tackle political and social problems and to help shape their new home. This was against the backdrop that, from the perspective of the grant recipient, democracy thrives on discourse and criticism as well as opportunities to shape and participate. The measures were: 1. interactive exhibition "Democracy"</p>
	EMN NCP Greece	Yes	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. From the provisions of Article 1 of the Regulation for the Operation of Public Libraries, in which the purpose and objectives of public libraries are defined, it is mentioned that:                  "The library promotes, without political, religious, racial, or other discrimination, knowledge, information, education,</p>

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		<p>and culture. To achieve its goals, the library, among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• operates as a local information center, which ensures to its users access to all kinds of knowledge and information.</li> <li>• enhances readability and any kind of related educational and cultural activity,</li> <li>• provides special services and material to those users who are not able, for any reason, to use the usual services and existing library material.</li> <li>• acts in every direction to fulfill its mission.</li> <li>• The implementation of these purposes, which are consistent with the UNESCO Declaration on Libraries, constitutes the central axis on which the Regulation is based on the operation of the libraries and creates a unified framework for their operation".</li> </ul> <p>Consequently, the operation of public libraries is governed by a specific regulatory framework. Furthermore, public libraries, in their relevant responses, emphasize that they consist indeed a tool to promote the integration of third-country nationals and contribute to building a society without exclusion and discrimination. Some of them gave specific information about the actions they have taken in this direction. In more detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since 2016, the "ZOSIMAIA" Public Central Historical Library of Ioannina has designed and implemented educational programs and actions with the aim of eliminating discrimination against disadvantaged groups (e.g., migrants, groups of different cultures and religions), supporting cultural diversity (e.g., inter-religious and not only events, providing free PCs for everyone), taking special care to strengthen children and young people's knowledge and skills: Programs "Racism" and "I play... you play! I don't care that you're different." The cooperation with the Intercultural Primary School of Ioannina, with the visits and development of activities of the "Knowledge and Emotion Library" of Zosimaia, is in the same direction. In addition, the Mobile Unit of Zosimaia also made itineraries to the accommodation areas, carrying books and programs for those who could not visit the library.</li> <li>• The Public Central Library of Veria, since 2016, has started visiting the refugee reception centers with a mobile library, by informing on the library's offered services and by lending children books and articles in the arab language through Pressreader.com. In addition, through the Future Library, the Library participated in the European Program <a href="https://refugeelives.eu/">https://refugeelives.eu/</a>, providing online communication services, and implemented educational seminars with the participation of third-country nationals.</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Public Central Historic Library of Samos created a type of an exchange Library, where the ownership of the books remained in the Library and thus helped in the dissemination of books among refugees of the same language and in the creation of a collection of about 3,000 books. Also, in collaboration with the Office of UNHCR, carried out awareness-raising activities with many thematic events. In addition, issued a special Teaching Method of the Greek Language to refugees and migrants, specially addressed to adult and illiterate, even in their mother tongue, persons. The publication of the book "TAMAM", was financed by the Public Investment Program and is available in digital and printed form, free of charge.</li> <li>• The Central Public Library of Grevena implemented various more specific forms of support, such as free access to Internet or implementation of programs (e.g "Open Book Program").</li> <li>• The "Papacharalampeios" Public Central Library of Nafpaktos granted free access to new technologies (computers, e-books, wifi, scanners, photocopiers, etc.), as well as to printed/electronic material, free participation in Information education/literacy courses, learning programs of the Greek language, creative writing seminars, computer learning courses and activities to promote reading and creativity for children and adults.</li> <li>• The Public Library of Lefkada provided relevant material for foreigners learning the Greek language (and familiarization). Also provided free access to internet, through the Public Information Center. In addition, has collaborated with NGOs for migrants and vulnerable groups (without relevant funding) and has organized free familiarization and acquisition of basic computer skills courses, mainly for unemployed persons, in which migrants also participated.</li> <li>• The Public Central Library of Livadia, where the Municipality undertook the implementation of the ESTIA program, as well as the HELIOS program of IOM, cooperated with participating actors and organized meetings with the hosted refugees and informed them on the actions of the Library (creation of a small Library with books in their language that can be borrowed). It also held educational programs for young children and distributed a children's book translated into the language of the refugees, mainly of Syrian origin, as well as an event with poetry inspired by the migration flows.</li> <li>• The Central Public Library of Kilkis implemented actions in order to raise awareness and to get to know the local community on the customs and traditions of the region and to strengthen the contact and symbiosis of third country nationals with it.</li> </ul>
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		<p>3. No</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. Most Public Greek Libraries have not cooperated with any NGO for the organization and implementation of relevant actions and programs for vulnerable groups, nor have they been aware of the existence of any NGO that has implemented relevant actions. There are exceptions of certain Libraries as analysed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The "ZOSIMAIA" Public Central Historical Library of Ioannina, which, in cooperation with the University of Ioannina and the NGO "Terre des Hommes", implemented a program related to the provision of informal education and creative work for refugee children during the years 2016–2017. The aim of the program was the learning of the Greek language, the support of the program of the integration departments of the Ministry of Education and the creative work of the age groups: 4-5, 6-12, and 13-18 years. For this purpose, groups of certified teachers and students of University of Ioannina, under the supervision of members of the Scientific Committee of the informal education program undertook the implementation of the above objectives. The program was considered as very positive for the improvement of the living conditions of the refugees, their integration into the local society and the strengthening of their contact and symbiosis.</li> <li>• Also, the Kilkis Central Public Library cooperated informally with a local NGO for organizing actions and programs to promote knowledge of democracy and to reinforce a more cohesive society. In particular, visits were organized to get to know the library and its services, as well as educational activities to reinforce «the love of reading» and the contact with the local tradition and customs of the region.</li> <li>• The Samos Public Central Historical Library's material is also used by volunteers of NGOs and refugee groups who are taught the Greek language.</li> <li>• The "Koraes" Chios Central Public Library referred to actions of NGOs regarding educational visits with children and teenagers to the Library and the Museum.</li> <li>• Finally, the "Kapodistrian" Public Library of Aegina generally referred to the existence of voluntary groups</li> </ul>
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			which are active in the field of improving the quality of life of vulnerable groups. The actions that are mainly organized take the form of fundraisers, help at home and free tutoring courses.
	EMN NCP Hungary	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. N/A</li> <li>3. No</li> <li>4. N/A</li> <li>5. No</li> <li>6. N/A</li> </ol>
	EMN NCP Italy	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes</li> <li>2. Italian public libraries provide services that both Italian citizens and third country nationals can access equally. Some libraries across the territory offer specific services for migrants, such as Italian language courses and socio-cultural activities such as sightseeing tours and guides to local services. Although there is no formal agreement between the reception centers and the libraries' network, beneficiaries of the ordinary reception systems (SAI) and exceptional reception systems (CAS) can freely access all services free of charge. In 2014 the Culture section is created within the Migrant Integration Portal, an inter-ministerial website whose editorial office is located in the Directorate General of Immigration of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies. This section is developed with the aim of documenting the evolution of the cultural background of migrants and people with a migratory background as well as offering a testimony of the impact on society in terms of inclusion and integration. The Culture area is divided into five sections respectively dedicated to Art, Cinema, Literature, Music and Theatre. The area collects, with continuous updating, the various initiatives concerning migrant culture carried out in Italy. The area is conceived as a national portfolio of the experiences of the migrant culture in Italy.</li> </ol>

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		<p>Its mapping is entrusted to the monitoring by the editorial staff of the relevant sites and press, also through the collaboration gained over the years with numerous cultural realities, including public libraries.</p> <p>3. Yes</p> <p>4. On the Migrant Integration Portal, various initiatives carried out by public libraries (with AMIF and non-AMIF funds) are highlighted both in the culture area (see above) and in the sections dedicated to regional and local initiatives.</p> <p>Below an indicative but not exhaustive list of integration initiatives in which public libraries are involved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Lazio: PRIMA IL LAVORO desks are operative in some municipalities of the region. Implemented in the framework of the PRIMA IL LAVORO project - funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (FAMI) 2014-2020;</li> <li>b. Tuscany "Mamma Lingua";</li> <li>c. Prato - L.A.I.V. Project   Parenting workshops</li> <li>d. Bologna   free Italian courses for foreign citizens at the Amilcar Cabral Library</li> <li>e. Ravenna   A territorial network against labour exploitation   FAMI "SMART" project at Classense Library</li> </ol> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. Below is a representative but not exhaustive list of initiatives consistent with the demand:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Consorzio NOVA   "Beyond the Ghetto" Contest</li> <li>b. Consorzio NOVA   MultiMo(n)di for integration</li> <li>c. INTEGRA Programme   ORIENTAMENTE Project</li> <li>d. CONNGI - Coordinamento Nuove Generazioni Italiane   Protagonisti 2023</li> <li>e. COSPE   Empowering migrant voices on integration and inclusion policies</li> <li>f. ARCA DI NOE' Cooperative   Emilia-Romagna: LEI Project - Work, Empowerment and Inclusion</li> <li>g. Dream Factory   BERGAMONDO</li> </ol>
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	<p>EMN NCP Latvia</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. Libraries are working to develop as community centres and places that are open to everyone, including asylum seekers who need all kind of help today, providing also to refugee families to get to know the library as a place to spend time, where children can play games and draw, adults have access to the internet and books in different languages.</p> <p>Within the European Library Network and the Erasmus+ programmes, libraries can also receive help to carry out meaningful support projects to address the refugee situation in Ukraine. While within Interreg projects libraries have implemented social inclusion projects for children creating conditions in the library to promote the socio-economic activity of children from vulnerable families (workshops, reading, PlayStation games, educational, informative and varied, entertainment for children).</p> <p>The National Library of Latvia (NLL) in cooperation with the Society Integration Foundation (SIF) has also hosted Ukrainian residents with the aim to help them to learn the basic Latvian language skills.</p> <p>Also, libraries provide short course of information about issues concerning asylum seekers and on matters of human trafficking and were encouraged to give necessary informative assistance to civilians from Ukraine under temporary protection.</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. -</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. In order to strengthen the capacity of regional non-governmental organizations (hereinafter - NGOs) and to promote mutual cooperation and cooperation with local authorities, businesses, cultural institutions (museums, libraries, cultural houses), as well as in order to provide accessible and comprehensible data for effective action and participation, each year the Ministry of Culture implements NGO support program in the regions. Programme in regions is performed by selected leading NGOs who are delegated organisations for state tasks.</p>
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			<p>The task includes consultative function which envisage obligation to assist applicants in preparation of project proposals. Procedure is maximally simplified and designed to avoid extra bureaucracy and administrative burden for organisations.</p> <p>Here you will find more detailed information about some of the regional NGO support centres:</p> <p><a href="https://nvo.lv/en/">https://nvo.lv/en/</a>  <a href="https://zemgalei.lv/en/">https://zemgalei.lv/en/</a>  <a href="https://kurzemesnvo.lv/eng/">https://kurzemesnvo.lv/eng/</a></p>
	EMN NCP Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. No</p> <p>Since 2014, the Ministry of Social Security and Labor has been the institution responsible for the integration of third-country nationals. In carrying out the integration, the Ministry follows the Action Plan for the Integration of Foreigners into Society 2018–2021. The Action Plan includes 39 measures to improve legislation and processes in the field of integration of foreigners and asylum seekers, to improve inter-institutional cooperation in the field of integration of foreigners and asylum seekers, and to improve the integration of foreigners and asylum seekers into the labor market, the education system. The measures also seek to improve access to social and health services for foreigners, promote cooperation between foreigners and local communities, reduce discrimination against foreigners, improve the integration of foreign women by guaranteeing their rights, and monitor and research the implementation of integration processes and policies. Integration centers in Vilnius, Kaunas and Klaipėda, funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, offer civic orientation trainings and courses. However, none of the documents or measures specifically mention the role of public libraries.</p> <p>2. According to the 2020 statistics, there were 1,226 public libraries in Lithuania: 5 regional public libraries and 60 municipal public libraries, which had 122 city, 1,030 village, and 9 children's branches. The public library network is the densest institutional cultural institution network in Lithuania, reaching residents in even remote areas, which makes public libraries potentially significant actors in promoting integration.</p> <p>While none of the integration plans and measures assign a role to public libraries, public libraries can and often do take a proactive approach and organize various events related to the integration of third-country nationals, increasing the awareness and knowledge of the public on issues related to migration, migrants rights and migrant</p>

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		<p>integration. Please find some examples of activities, events, and programs initiated or facilitated by public libraries below.</p> <p>In 2016, the Central Library of Vilnius City Municipality (VMSCB) launched the project "Priimti Negalima Grįžti," partly funded by the Lithuanian Council for Culture. The project aimed to act as a community hub, promoting cultural exchange and reliable information dissemination about refugee social integration. Events took place across four VMSCB libraries: Central Vilnius, Antakalnis, Karoliniškės, and Pilaitė. The Central Vilnius Library showcased an exhibition on "The Arab Influence on the World of Science," in collaboration with Alexandria Library from Egypt. Dr. Karolis Žibas spoke about "Shelter and Refugee Flows in Europe and the World" at Antakalnis Library. At the Karoliniškės Library, attendees watched the film "World's Kitchen" about emigration, followed by a discussion with its director, Aistė Ptakauskė. The series ended with a talk by Ilma Skuodienė from Lithuania's Caritas at the Pilaitė Library, discussing the social integration of foreigners in Lithuania.</p> <p>In 2018, the National Library, in partnership with the Vilnius County Adomas Mickevičius Public Library and the Švenčionys Municipality Public Library, executed the Erasmus+ mobility project "Intercultural and Informational Education for Migrants – Staff Competence Development" (project number: 2017-1-LT01-KA104-035132). Drawing from their learnings in Danish and Finnish libraries, the Service Department of the National Library of Lithuania published developed guidelines for working with migrants, titled "Multicultural Dialogue Library." This publication is intended for Lithuanian public library staff who aim to initiate or expand their activities working with migrants, refugees, or foreigners in general. It offers an analysis of the current situation in Lithuania, examines experiences from other countries, and provides specific steps and tools to consider when planning and organizing activities for foreigners. The guide also offers practical tips and recommendations to optimize integration processes in libraries.</p> <p>In 2018, at the President Valdas Adamkus Library-Museum, a discussion titled "Migrants in Lithuania: Integration in the Face of Cultural Conflict" was initiated by the Vytautas Magnus University Sociologists' Club.</p> <p>In 2019, in the Adomas Mickevičius Public Library of Vilnius County, training sessions were held for the Erasmus+ project "Migrate to Library" titled "Migrant Integration in Lithuania: The Role of Libraries." The training covered</p>
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		<p>contemporary perceptions of migration and migrant integration in Lithuania. Participants were introduced to immigration statistics, trends, policies, and challenges in Lithuania.</p> <p>In 2022, war refugees from Ukraine with residence permits were provided with free library cards, with which they could access public computers, Wi-Fi, family, youth, and leisure spaces, participate in educational activities, children's sensory readings, visit exhibitions and other cultural events. They could also use the library's collection of table and interactive games, music recordings, movies, books, and periodicals in various languages.</p> <p>On March 28, 2022, the Mikalojaus Daukša Public Library in Kėdainiai district launched an information center for refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine. The main purpose of the center is to provide essential information to Ukrainians who have chosen Kėdainiai district as their temporary home.</p> <p><a href="#">multicultural_dialogue_library-compressed.pdf</a></p> <p>3. Yes Kėdainiai District's Mikalojaus Daukšos Public Library is one of the partners of Kėdainiai District Municipality Administration implementing the project "Reception and Early Integration of Refugees from Ukraine" No. HOME/2022/AMIF/AG/EMAS/TF1/LT/0013 in the district. The aim of the project is to contribute to the early integration of third-country nationals, especially, the war refugees from Ukraine. From May 2023 to February 2024, Mikalojaus Daukša Public Library will host activities to enhance trust and connection between locals and foreigners. Their Cultural Dialogue Club, based in the library, will offer shared learning opportunities like handicraft classes, discussions, and bibliotherapy. These events, attended by locals and Ukrainian refugees, aim to boost cultural understanding, improve Lithuanian language skills, and help the Ukrainians integrate and build self-confidence.</p> <p>4. 20 "Cultural Dialogue Club" sessions will be held at Kėdainiai District's Mikalojaus Daukšos Public Library. Activities include an introduction to the Lithuanian language and culture, the development of sociocultural competencies, a scrapbooking session, and a bibliotherapy session.</p> <p>5. Yes</p>
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			<p>6. The Open Lithuania Foundation, which was reestablished in 2017, is a non-profit NGO dedicated to fostering an open society through advocacy initiatives, awareness campaigns, and various educational programs. Their initiatives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Ukreate Hub, dedicated to Ukrainians diaspora in Lithuania, equipping them with knowledge, skills, network, and other tools to unleash their potential for the future of Ukraine. <a href="https://ukreatehub.eu/">https://ukreatehub.eu/</a></li> <li>• Active citizens' fund (APF) program, which focuses on democracy, human rights, empowerment of vulnerable groups, gender equality, and environmental and climate issues. <a href="https://apf.lt/apie-aktyviu-pilieciu-fonda/">https://apf.lt/apie-aktyviu-pilieciu-fonda/</a></li> </ul> <p>Founded in 2012, the NGO 'Diversity Development Group' (DDG) is dedicated to executing projects in areas like human rights, education, and migration, with the overarching goal of fostering a diverse, tolerant, and socially responsible society. See their past and ongoing projects here: <a href="https://www.diversitygroup.lt/portfolio/">https://www.diversitygroup.lt/portfolio/</a>.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Luxembourg</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. No. In Luxembourg, Public libraries are a service for all the resident and working population independently of nationality.</p> <p>2. N/A.</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. N/A.</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. As part of the national "I can vote" awareness campaign for the local elections of 11 June 2023, which aimed to raise awareness among non-Luxembourg citizens, launched by the Ministry for the Family, Integration and the Greater Region, CEFIS asbl has organised multiplier training for people from various backgrounds (foreign communities, associations, etc.) in the run-up to the local elections of 11 June 2023, to train them to encourage</p>


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			<p>people in their networks (communities, acquaintances, friends, etc.) to register on the municipal electoral roll. With a view to the local elections on 11 June 2023, 311 multipliers from 52 different nationalities have been trained ( <a href="https://cefis.lu/formation-multiplificateurs/">https://cefis.lu/formation-multiplificateurs/</a> ). The trainings were offered in different regions of Luxembourg and members from local associations or Municipal advisory committee on integration.</p> <p>Various association projects have been supported by the Ministry for Family and Integration, not necessarily targeting a local population, but rather various population groups. As part of the above-mentioned campaign, in 2022 and 2023 the Ministry launched a call for projects aimed at associations wishing to contribute to the "I can vote" awareness-raising campaign. (<a href="https://mfamigr.gouvernement.lu/en/le-ministere/attributions/integration/niveau-associatif.html">https://mfamigr.gouvernement.lu/en/le-ministere/attributions/integration/niveau-associatif.html</a>).</p> <p>6 association projects were subsidised in 2022 and 9 in 2023. These include three projects designed to raise awareness among the beneficiaries of international protection of the need to register to vote in local elections, two from the Excellence Foundation for Integration and Development - EFID asbl and one from RYSE asbl.</p> <p>Within the framework of the National Action Plan for Integration (PAN Integration), the Department of Integration of the Ministry of Family Affairs, Integration and the Greater Region has supported in 2022 three projects:</p> <p>The project Political participation: from talking to doing from ALDIC (Association Luxembourgeoise pour le Dialogue Interculturel). The project offered youth outreach workshops and Dignityland game sessions to encourage political participation. Target population: Young Luxembourgers, non-Luxembourgers, foreign nationals, third-country nationals and young beneficiaries of international protection For more information, <a href="#">click here</a>.</p> <p>The project Gemengewalen fir jiddereen from the Foundation Centre for Political Educati (Zentrum fir Politesch Bildung) The project aims to raise awareness about elections in general and to encourage non-Luxembourgish potential voters to register to vote by developing digital and playful informational tools. For more information, <a href="#">click here</a>.</p> <p>The project Letz vote from ASTI- The project aimed to set up an IT tool (website) allowing the user to discover the different aspects of national, European and local elections through fun animations. The <b>target population</b> were new voters. For more information <a href="#">click here</a>.</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Netherlands</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. Municipalities are responsible for promoting third-country nationals' integration into Dutch society. Public libraries can play an important role in that process. Most of the services public libraries provide to promote integration are targeted at applicants for, and beneficiaries of international protection<sup>[1]</sup>. Since February 2022, libraries have also offered several services specifically to displaced persons from Ukraine. A recent report commissioned by the Ministry of Culture, Education and Science indicates that libraries play an important role in providing language courses for adult Ukrainians, non-formal courses taught by volunteers<sup>[2]</sup>. As of April 2023, 78% of public libraries contribute to these courses, for instance by hosting them or informing potential participants. Although there is no information available about integration activities or services specifically targeted at other categories of third-country nationals, such as students and highly skilled migrants, the activities and services described below are open to them as well.</p> <p>First, libraries offers several services to help third-country nationals to learn Dutch, which is considered a crucial element of integration. For instance, in 2016, the Association of Public Libraries (Vereniging Openbare Bibliotheken, VOB) launched the Dutch Language Kit (Taalkit Dutch), a free on- and offline language course for applicants and beneficiaries of international protection . Many libraries also regularly host a 'Language café' (Taalcafé), which allows people to practice their Dutch in an informal setting. Libraries also offer various forms of support for functionally illiterate persons, such as assisting them with administrative tasks and contact with government agencies<sup>[3]</sup>.</p> <p>Furthermore, as libraries also serve as meeting places, they fulfil a social function. Through het Taalcafé, people can practice their Dutch speaking skills and extend their social network. Recently, libraries have also hosted several events specifically for displaced persons from Ukraine. In cooperation with JobOn, an independent foundation, libraries held networking events which allow displaced persons and other TCNs to meet and explore job opportunities<sup>[4]</sup>.</p> <p><sup>[1]</sup> Vereniging Openbare Bibliotheken, 'Bibliotheken vormen coalitie voor taal en integratie vluchtelingen',</p>
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			<p><a href="#">2016 bibliotheek-en-vluchtelingen hand-out bijeenkomst-27-mei vob-vng.pdf (debibliotheken.nl)</a>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.</p> <p>[2] Berenschot, 'Tweede Monitor Taalonderwijs volwassen Oekraïense ontheemden', <a href="#">Tweede Monitor Taalonderwijs volwassen Oekraïense ontheemden   Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal</a>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.</p> <p>[3] De Bibliotheek, 'De Bibliotheek en integratie', <a href="#">bbv bibliotheek en integratie Probiblio.pdf (bibliotheeknetwerk.nl)</a>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.</p> <p>[4] Bibliotheekblad, 'Bibliotheek als ontmoetingsplek voor Oekraïense vluchtelingen', <a href="#">Bibliotheek als ontmoetingsplek voor Oekraïense vluchtelingen - Bibliotheekblad</a>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. N/A.</p> <p>5. No</p> <p>6. N/A.</p>
	EMN NCP Poland	Yes	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. Activities have been carried out at the regional level. The Regional Centre for Social Policy in Poznań (ROPS; subordinate to the Wielkopolska Marshal's Office), within its Migration Policy Department, provides substantive, training and networking support to institutions and organisations that have the potential for integration activities for foreigners and the receiving society. Public libraries at the regional, county and municipal level have become natural partners for ROPS in promoting integration to third-country nationals and building an inclusive society. ROPS Poznan started discussions in this area with public libraries in 2021, and with the AMIF project introduced cooperation with them as a task of the Foreigners' Integration Centres opened in five cities: Poznań, Kalisz, Konin, Leszno, Piła.</p>




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		<p>3. Yes</p> <p>4. Activities has been carried out at the regional level. A group of librarians and local educators were trained in the use of the "bajkowóz" tool („story” car) – a mobile library. It is a kind of cardboard vehicle with many shelves and lockers. In addition to books, there are also various accessories such as a crown, a shoe, buttons, a hat and a fan. All to be used with a group of children.</p> <p>As well as the part of the project, the libraries were able also to deliver various types of integration workshops for children and young people from third countries. Book and film work was used, but also spherical cinema following children's interest in astrology; alpacas; activities combining learning about the place and its history with environmental activities; creating comic books, Christmas decorations (for holidays of different religions and nationalities) and much more. Some of workshops have become part of the libraries' permanent schedule of activities.</p> <p>ROPS introduced the model of intercultural library based on four pillars: collaboration, inclusion, empowerment and visibility.</p> <p>Collaboration is based on a 'we work with groups for intreculturalism' approach. Which means regularly examining needs, setting goals and actions together with the group instead of for the group.</p> <p>Inclusion means incorporating the perspectives and needs of diverse groups into library operations, service and event information distribution channels. Modifying what already works to make it accessible to different social and cultural groups.</p> <p>Empowerment is seen as all activities that may help to increased competence, empowerment and influence of minority groups.</p> <p>Visibility means recognising culturally diverse people, enabling them to cultivate, develop and present components of their culture such as language, traditions, religion (place in space and budget).</p> <p>5. N/I</p> <p>6. N/A</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Portugal</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>1. Yes School libraries are a tool to promote the integration of third-country nationals and build an inclusive society.</p> <p>2. School libraries are organisations that promote the defence of human dignity and justice, a commitment to equity and the value of diversity, democracy and freedom. To this end, they carry out activities that encourage the exercise of democratic, reflective and entrepreneurial citizenship, committed to a humanist and sustainable vision of the world. They do this in collaboration with the different curricular areas, at school times or during free use of the school library. To support this action by school libraries, the School Libraries Network provides resources and proposals for activities at Citizenship and School Library   Think and Act: <a href="https://www.rbe.mec.pt/np4/cidadania.html">https://www.rbe.mec.pt/np4/cidadania.html</a> . We also offer the resource W for welcoming, which proposes activities and resources for welcoming foreigners. <a href="https://www.rbe.mec.pt/np4/A-de-Acolher.html">https://www.rbe.mec.pt/np4/A-de-Acolher.html</a> School libraries organise intercultural events for students and their families. For example: Inclusive Libraries: school libraries at AE Júlio Dantas, agents of integration and learning <a href="https://blogue.rbe.mec.pt/bibliotecas-inclusivas-bibliotecas-2741315">https://blogue.rbe.mec.pt/bibliotecas-inclusivas-bibliotecas-2741315</a> School libraries also develop specific projects for developing citizenship and participation skills, such as: We can all read together - The library integrates students from different nationalities, promoting their integration by reading in different languages. The students themselves carry out mentoring programmes, thus promoting the integration of colleagues from different cultural backgrounds. <a href="https://www.rbe.mec.pt/np4/TodosJuntosPodemosLer.html">https://www.rbe.mec.pt/np4/TodosJuntosPodemosLer.html</a> Since the School Library Network believes that reading is the great platform for understanding and cohesion, we would like to highlight some projects in which reading is associated with citizenship: Kids voting - The School Library Network and VISÃO Júnior magazine organise an annual election in which children and young people from all schools are given the chance to vote for the book they like best, replicating the procedures and rules of a real election. This initiative is a unique exercise in citizenship, emphasising the responsibility of voting. <a href="https://www.rbe.mec.pt/np4/MiudosaVotos.html">https://www.rbe.mec.pt/np4/MiudosaVotos.html</a></p> <p>3. No</p>
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			<p>School libraries were not invited to submit applications.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5. We don't know.</p> <p>6.</p>
	EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	<p>1. No None of the strategic documents in the field of migration in the Slovak Republic, whether the Migration Policy of the Slovak Republic with a view to 2025 or the Integration Policy of the Slovak Republic, mention public libraries as a tool to support the integration of third-country nationals. Also, none of the programming documents of the AMIF Funds for 2014-2020 and 2021-2027 mentions public libraries as a tool to support the integration of third-country nationals.</p> <p>2. NA</p> <p>3. No No, public libraries were not registered as a grant applicant or partner in open calls for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund.</p> <p>4. NA</p> <p>5. No Information on the activities of the non-profit sector in the field of democracy support is outside the EMN's mandate.</p> <p>6. NA</p>

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	<p>EMN NCP Slovenia</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. Slovenia views public libraries as one of the tools to promote integration to third-country nationals. Libraries are public places, which also organize community activities – public events where different people could come together. We would like to add, that for now, Slovenia has not yet defined the role of public libraries in the program of integration on the governmental level and in a systematic way.</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. In Slovenia there are NGOs, which work in different field of integration of third-country nationals, they organize workshops and programs which encourage inclusion into society to migrants (example: activities like connecting with local communities, networking, workshops organized in daily center for migrants - <a href="https://www.filantropija.org/dnevni-center-za-migrante-v-ljubljani-in-ma...">https://www.filantropija.org/dnevni-center-za-migrante-v-ljubljani-in-ma...</a>). Some libraries offer their premises to NGOs that volunteer to hold Slovenian language courses, while some events held by these NGOs are intended specifically for migrant children.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Spain</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. The government of Spain do not specifically view libraries as a tool to promote integration among TCN's, but in a more general view, as an instrument to promote socialization and coexistence in a democratic society. As expressed in the forewords of the Law 10/2007: "Nowadays, reading is conceived as a basic tool for the development of the personality and also as an instrument for socialisation; in other words, as an essential element for training and democratic coexistence, in order to develop in the "information society". Citizens, through</p>

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		<p>numerous media and resources, receive an abundance of information; but, in this context, it is necessary to have the necessary ability to transform information into knowledge, and this ability is achieved thanks to the reading habit. Only in this way can citizens aspire to participate in and enjoy equally the possibilities offered by the "knowledge society": reading is choosing perspectives from which to situate our gaze, inviting us to reflect, to think and to create.”</p> <p>On the other hand, the Action Plan for the Promotion of Reading (2021-2024) of the Ministry of Culture and Sports, recognized that “Reading is a determining factor not only for the individual growth of each person, but also as an essential element for the construction of a better society. Reading narrows social gaps, promotes equality, enables us to develop critical thinking and makes us more empathetic and understanding people.”</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. There are several examples of NGOs implementing programmes to promote democracy and convivialty in Spain at the national, regional and local level. Find 3 examples below:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Leer para no estar solos (Reading so as not to be alone)- Asociación Afrocanarias DIAKHASE y ADSIS. Description of the Project: “leer para no estar” solos is a reading promotion project subsidised by the Ministry of Culture of the Spanish Government aimed at foreign minors who are alone in our country. Through poems that speak of the uprooting of migrations accompanied by African music, the young people will perform a recital to show that “there are more elements that unite us than those that distance us”. In the 2023 edition, unaccompanied foreign minors living in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria will interact with translation students from the ULPGC to create an encounter of true interculturality around the poems of Rafael Alberti, Gloria Fuertes and León Felipe. <a href="https://fti.ulpgc.es/leer-para-no-estar-solos-encuentro-literario-entre-migrantes-y-estudiantes-de-la-fti">https://fti.ulpgc.es/leer-para-no-estar-solos-encuentro-literario-entre-migrantes-y-estudiantes-de-la-fti</a></p>
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			<p>b. Txikikids Corner. Description of the project: is a programme of the Mestiza association that was launched in 2009, in collaboration with Donostia Kultura, the Central Library. Children's Section and subsidised by the Department of Culture of the Donostia-San Sebastián City Council. Today the Txikikids Corner programme is carried out in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country within the line of promoting reading in the Network of Public Libraries and Cultural Centres. <a href="https://mestiza.org.es/txiki-kids-corner/">https://mestiza.org.es/txiki-kids-corner/</a></p> <p>c. Leer me hace más libre (Reading makes me freer) Romi Sermeni Asociation. Description of the project: Socio-educational project carried out in 3 communities: Valencia, Jaén and Madrid. The following activities were carried out: Workshops on roma people and roma cultural references. Storytelling workshops accompanied by flamenco music. Storytelling competition, elaborated by the pupils. Presentation of prizes, books for the school and the winning pupils. <a href="https://www.romiserseni.es/category/proyectos2022/leer-me-hace-mas-libre/">https://www.romiserseni.es/category/proyectos2022/leer-me-hace-mas-libre/</a></p>
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