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**Language and literacy  
support measures for  
adult beneficiaries  
of international  
protection**

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EMN Inform

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EMN is a network composed of migration experts which aims to collect, analyse and provide up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information on migration and asylum. By the decree of the Government of Republic of Lithuania International Organization for Migration Vilnius Office acts as the national coordinator for the EMN activities in Lithuania.

More information about EMN activities in Lithuania: **[www.emn.lt](http://www.emn.lt)**.

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1. Does your country have any (targeted or mainstream) language support measures for adult beneficiaries of international protection? YES/NO. If YES, please list up to three of the most important language support measures that are currently implemented in your country.

YES.

Persons who have been granted asylum in Lithuania can learn Lithuanian during the state integration support period:

**1. At the Refugee Reception Centre<sup>1</sup>** (hereinafter referred to as the centre), which organises formal Lithuanian language training in the centre, in other residential premises provided by the centre, and subsequently - together with the organisations implementing the integration - for adult foreigners residing in the territory of the municipality, who have received asylum in the Republic of Lithuania, and for their family members, who have arrived in the Republic of Lithuania in the case of family reunification.

After the state support integration program ends, foreigners who have been granted asylum in Lithuania can continue to improve their Lithuanian language skills in other Lithuanian language training programs:

**2. The Employment Service under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania** provides Lithuanian language training to both employed and unemployed citizens of the European Union, the European Free Trade Organisation and their family members living in Lithuania, as well as third-country nationals with a residence permit in Lithuania (except for persons of incapacitated age). The person who needs state language training chooses the training provider from the list of training providers published by the Employment Service. Unemployed persons receive a grant during the course of the measure. Upon completion of the course, a certificate of Lithuanian language training and knowledge is issued..

**3. Municipal budgetary institutions (social service and education centres, etc.) or non-governmental organisations** (NGOs), through individual initiatives and projects, organise non-formal Lithuanian language learning courses for beneficiaries of temporary protection. These courses are also open to foreigners who have been granted asylum in Lithuania.

It is important to note that the language support measures listed above are provided free of charge.

2. If you answer YES to Q1, who are the responsible actors for designing and implementing the available language support measures listed under Q1?

Lithuanian language teaching services are acquired through public procurement, so the institutions providing the services - often **private companies** - differ. The institutions providing language courses have their own programmes, which are oriented to the passing of state language examinations, the requirements which are predefined. Public authorities, such as the Refugee Reception Centre or municipalities, are only responsible for financing and organising these services.

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<sup>1</sup>As of 1 January 2025, the Refugee Reception Centre became the Reception and Integration Agency. <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/d868e012752b11ef9c779dd37198d447?jfwid=-qm6bmb8mq>

In accordance with the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania “On the Approval of the Conditions and Procedures for the Provision of Lithuanian State Support for the Integration of Foreigners”, while the foreigners who have been granted asylum are living in the **Refugee Reception Centre**, they are provided with intensive courses of at least 96 hours of Lithuanian language training and Lithuanian culture awareness courses. Additional Lithuanian language courses of up to 96 hours may also be organised if, for justifiable reasons, the persons do not manage to reach level A1 within the 96 hours of the Lithuanian language and Lithuanian culture course.

After moving to the **municipalities** to live independently, the Refugee Reception Centre or other institutions implementing integration (the centre’s partners - **NGOs**) organise 190 hours of Lithuanian language A2 level courses and examinations in the 1st category of the state language. If, for justified reasons, this examination is not passed, additional courses of up to 100 hours may be organised, followed by a retake of the examination.

3. If you answer YES to Q1, is either the participation in and/or the successful completion of the language support measures mandatory for adult beneficiaries of international protection? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain.

YES.

During the period of state support for integration, participation in Lithuanian language training is compulsory for adult foreigners who have been granted asylum. If the foreigner who have been granted asylum refuses to learn Lithuanian, the state support for integration may be terminated (in accordance with [Article 108\(3\)\(1\) of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Legal Status of Foreigners](#), and sub-paragraph 39.1.1 of the [Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on the Approval of the Conditions and Procedures of the Lithuanian State Support for the Integration of Foreigners](#)), if a foreigner who has been granted asylum, without a justifiable reason, misses over 40% of the Lithuanian language courses. In addition, state support for integration may be reduced if the foreigner fails to attend more than 70% of Lithuanian language courses.

4. If you answer YES to Q1, who bears the costs for the participation of adult beneficiaries of international protection in these measures? (e.g. the state, the beneficiary, shared burden, NGOs etc.).

During the period of state support for integration, the Lithuanian language training for foreigners who have been granted asylum is financed by the Lithuanian state budget and the projects of the European Union Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund.

5. Does the service provider of the language courses analyse the individual learning and literacy needs of adult beneficiaries of international protection participating in the language support measures listed under Q1? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain.

YES.

Individual needs are first analysed by the social consultant (a member of staff from the institution responsible for the integration of the foreigner who has been granted asylum) who makes the referral to the courses or social clubs. The mother tongue, literacy level, current level of Lithuanian language and, where appropriate, gender is taken into account. The intensity and duration of the training desired by the foreigner who has been granted asylum is also assessed.

This information is passed on to the Lithuanian language course provider. The course provider additionally assesses the foreigner's Lithuanian language level and specific needs, if any, before starting the course.

6. Does your country have tailored language support measures in place responding to the literacy level of adult beneficiaries of international protection (e.g. lack of basic literacy in the (alphabetic, syllabic, logographic) writing system of the country of origin/the host country)? YES/NO. Please explain.

NO.

In cases of illiteracy, efforts are made to organise in-person groups, where a wider range of teaching methodologies can be applied, or individual tutoring is organised.

In the context of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund project, the Qualifications and Vocational Education and Training Development Centre has analysed the methodologies used in Lithuania for foreigners, prepared an overview of them and developed 4 Lithuanian language training modules, one of which is aimed at beginner immigrants. The module consists of two main parts: methodological guidelines and lesson descriptions for teaching Lithuanian language to beginners. However, there are no specific tools for teaching Lithuanian to illiterates.

7. Does your country have tailored language support measures in place responding to special learning needs (e.g. concentration difficulties due to trauma) of adult beneficiaries of international protection? YES/NO. Please explain.

YES.

When the state support for integration programme is launched, the social worker assigned to the foreigner who has been granted asylum shall work with him/her to develop an individual integration plan. The plan shall set out the objectives, the means to achieve them, an assessment of the person's potential, vulnerability and possible risks that may affect the successful integration.

Based on the person's individual needs and capacities, the plan includes a range of assistance measures, including social, health, educational, psychological and other support services, to help the integration process.

This ensures that the individual needs and capacities of each person granted asylum are properly evaluated and addressed.

The objectives and measures set out in the plan are periodically reviewed and updated if the person's circumstances or needs change. The institutions implementing integration monitor progress and adapt training to changing conditions.

#### 8. How and by whom is the quality of the language support measures listed under Q1 ensured?

The quality of Lithuanian language teaching is the responsibility of the institution implementing the integration and the service provider. At the end of the training course, a state language exam is held, organised by the National Agency for Education.

#### 9. Has your country identified any good practices of language support measures for adult beneficiaries of international protection that are particularly targeted at facilitating their labour market integration? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain.

NO.

Such measures are currently being planned.

#### 10. Has your country identified any good practices of language support measures relevant for beneficiaries of international protection not specifically aimed at facilitating their labour market integration? If YES, please explain.

YES.

One of the best practices in Lithuania is to combine formal Lithuanian language learning with non-formal learning. For example, the Lithuanian Red Cross Society organises "Lithuanian Language Clubs" run by volunteers. These clubs allow people to practice the knowledge acquired in formal training, develop their Lithuanian language skills and strengthen community ties. The classes take place once a week and are based on methodological materials for 12 topics. To reach more participants, some of the sessions are organised remotely, but there are also live meetings with temporary protection beneficiaries, persons granted asylum and other foreigners who want to improve their Lithuanian language skills.

11. Do beneficiaries of international protection receive additional support measures (e.g. childcare arrangements, authorised leave of absence from work, gender specific training, etc) to enable them to attend and succeed in the language measures listed in Q1?

While residing in the Reception Centre, foreigners who have been granted asylum can leave their children with the centre's staff, who look after them in a specially equipped playroom. As part of the ongoing training in municipalities, some NGOs and social service centres also provide childcare facilities. However, women with children usually choose a form of remote learning that allows them to combine training with family responsibilities.

In more complex cases, such as those with special needs, tailored training is organised to meet their specific circumstances. In addition, the training time is coordinated with the participants' daily activities or work, to ensure maximum adaptation to their individual needs.

12. Do you monitor the language and literacy levels of adult beneficiaries of international protection before and after participating in language support measures? If YES, what does the monitoring indicate in terms of the efficiency of the measures as reflected in the learning progress?

NO.

The requirement for foreigners granted asylum to participate in mandatory Lithuanian language training has been made stricter only from the beginning of 2024. In current practice, learning outcomes are only monitored and evaluated after the training is completed, through a state language exam. For this reason, there is a lack of data that would allow to properly assess the progress of Lithuanian language learning achieved by foreigners granted asylum during the state integration programme.

In addition, Lithuanian language training in Lithuania is organised through public procurement, so it is difficult to ensure that the service is continuous and consistently provided by the same service provider, the quality of whose services can be assessed and conclusions drawn about the effectiveness of the measures applied.

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