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Ad-Hoc Query

2024.32 National Immigrant Consultative Bodies

European Migration Network
Ad-hoc query

AD-HOC QUERY ON 2024.32 NATIONAL IMMIGRANT CONSULTATIVE BODIES

REQUESTED BY EMN NCP SPAIN ON 22 MAY 2024

Responses from: EMN NCP Austria, EMN NCP Belgium, EMN NCP Croatia, EMN NCP Cyprus, EMN NCP Czech Republic, EMN NCP Estonia, EMN NCP Finland, EMN NCP France, EMN NCP Germany, EMN NCP Greece, EMN NCP Hungary, EMN NCP Italy, EMN NCP Latvia, EMN NCP Lithuania, EMN NCP Luxembourg, EMN NCP Netherlands, EMN NCP Poland, EMN NCP Portugal, EMN NCP Serbia, EMN NCP Slovakia, EMN NCP Slovenia, EMN NCP Spain, EMN NCP Sweden (**23 in total**)

Disclaimer: The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN National Contact Points (NCPs) in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN Country.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Promoting active citizenship and participation is a central element of EU member states' integration efforts. According to the Council of Europe, participation entails that “all citizens, including migrants, have the right, the means, the space, the opportunity and the support to freely express their opinions and influence decision making on matters that affect them”[1]. Hence, Common Basic Principle No9 recognises the importance of the participation of immigrants in the democratic process, therefore requiring due attention by all Member States[2].

One such way of foster participation of immigrant population is by establishing a structured dialogue between immigrants and governments through the constitution of national immigrant consultative bodies (some Member States make use of other forms of structured dialogue, such as consultative committees, civil society organisations' forums, informal forums and others). With regard to national consultative bodies, the Fundamental Right Agency (FRA) found that, in 2017, ten Member States (Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal and Spain) have established various types of national immigrant consultative bodies. In addition, the research identified such consultative bodies operating at local or regional level in several Member States (the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Poland, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom)[3]. The Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) initiative, led by CIDOB and Migration Policy Group (MPG), also conducted research on immigrant political participation[4]. However, few research covering all EU member states has been conducted recently.

In Spain, the State Secretariat for Migration, through the Spanish Observatory on Racism and Xenophobia, recently approved the Strategic Framework for Citizenship and Inclusion, against Racism and Xenophobia (2023-3027)[5]. The Strategic Framework aims to promote citizenship, inclusion and integration of people of foreign origin, and to prevent- racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. Among the lines of action of the Strategic Framework, one is to

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encourage the participation of people of foreign origin in public, institutional and/or community life, paying special attention to youth participation, promoting the acquisition of skills and knowledge about the spaces for participation and its possibilities. For this reason, the Strategic Framework aim to map relevant practices in promoting institutional and political participation of immigrants at the EU level to gain insights from other Member States and to inspire new policies formulation associated with the Strategic Framework.

In this context, Spain National Contact Point (Spain NCP) for the European Migration Network (EMN) launches this ad-hoc query with the following questions:

[1] Intercultural glossary of the Council of Europe: <https://rm.coe.int/intercultural-glossary/1680a836f2>

[2] Common Basic Principles for Immigrant Integration Policy in the EU: https://migrant-integration.ec.europa.eu/library-document/common-basic-principles-immigrant-integration-policy-eu_en

[3] FRA (2017) Together in the EU - Promoting the participation of migrants and their descendants:
<https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2017/together-eu-promoting-participation-migrants-and-their-descendants>

[4] Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX): <https://www.mipex.eu/political-participation>

[5] Strategic Framework for Citizenship and Inclusion, against Racism and Xenophobia (2023-2027) Summary:
<https://www.inclusion.gob.es/oberaxe/ficheros/documentos/SummaryStrategic-Frameworkfor-Citizenship-and-Inclusionagainst-Racism-and-Xenophobia2023-2027.pdf>

WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

We would very much appreciate your responses by **24 June 2024**.

1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.
2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they?
 - a. Public bodies
 - b. Consultative committees inside the government
 - c. Civil society organisations' forums
 - d. Informal forums

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e. Other (please indicate)

3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?

4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?

5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).

6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).

RESPONSES

		Wider Dissemination?	
	EMN NCP Austria	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes, in Austria there exist the Expert Council for Integration and the Advisory Committee on Integration. --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b.</p>

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			<p>Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>Both existing institutions in Austria (see Q1), are to be qualified as consultative committees inside the government. ---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>To provide support on integration policy issues of fundamental importance, the Federal Ministry, which is responsible for integration matters, has set up an Expert Council for Integration as an advisory body (Art. 17 of the Integration Act 2017). This body is made up of people with proven comprehensive expertise in the field of integration. The tasks of the Expert Council include supporting the implementation of the National Action Plan for Integration and preparing and publishing an annual integration report. The Expert Council is independent and not bound by instructions in its work and is only bound by the mandate established by the Integration Act. See also: https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at/agenda/integration/expertenrat-integration.html.</p> <p>The Advisory Committee on Integration, a body pursuant to Art. 19 Integration Act 2017, is comprised of representatives of the federal government, provinces, association of municipalities and cities social partners, the Federation of Austrian Industries, and non-profit organizations as well as the Austrian Integration Fund (ÖIF). In particular, the Advisory Committee on Integration is intended to promote continuous, cross-competence networking, coordination and agreement in decision-making processes as well as knowledge exchange between key players in the field of integration. See also: https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at/agenda/integration/integrationsbeirat.html.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>The last Expert Council meeting was held for the last time in June 2024, while the last biannual Integration Advisory Board meeting was held on May 23, 2024.</p>
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			<p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>Yes. The Advisory Committee on Integration, a body pursuant to Art. 19 Integration Act 2017, is comprised of representatives of the federal government, provinces, association of municipalities and cities social partners, the Federation of Austrian Industries, and non-profit organizations as well as the Austrian Integration Fund (ÖIF). In particular, the Advisory Committee on Integration is intended to promote continuous, cross-competence networking, coordination and agreement in decision-making processes as well as knowledge exchange between key players in the field of integration. See also: https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at/agenda/integration/integrationsbeirat.html.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>The Austrian Integration Fund provides Feedback forms to some of its integration measures (eg. value and orientation courses).</p> <p>Citizens and institutions have extensive opportunities to participate in the parliamentary review process. Comments can be submitted on the following subjects of negotiation as soon as they have been received by Parliament:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Federal government bills (government bills)Independent motions by members of parliament (own-initiative motions) or committees for the enactment of lawsBills proposed by the Federal CouncilCitizens' initiativesPetitions
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			<p>Successful referendums (at least 100,000 signatures)</p> <p>The following items of negotiation can be supported: Citizens' initiatives Petitions Published statements</p> <p>The opportunity to submit statements and support exists from the time of publication of the respective items for negotiation on the parliamentary website. Participation is possible until the end of the parliamentary procedure, which is usually the adoption of a resolution in the Bundesrat plenary session.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Belgium</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>In Belgium, integration falls under the responsibility of the three language-based Communities: Flemish Community, French Community, and German-speaking Community. As a result, the answers concern regional immigrant consultative bodies.</p> <p>The answers below concern the Flemish Community, the other Communities did not provide an answer. Flemish Community: yes.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>Flemish Community: e. Other. The Flemish Government recognises and concludes a 5-year cooperation agreement with a participation</p>

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			<p>organisation. This participation organisation is a non-profit organisation and is a network organisation (not a membership organisation). For the period 2022 - 2026, the network organisation LEVL vzw is recognised as the participation organisation.</p> <p>More information on LEVL is available on https://levl.be/.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>The participation organisation fulfills the following general tasks with a view to the empowerment and emancipation of persons of foreign origin, and the correct representation of persons of foreign origin in society:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1° encourage networking, inclusion and participation, including policy participation, in society;2° ensure proportionate participation of persons of foreign origin in education, work, living;3° working towards an inclusive society, where segregation is countered and people live with and not alongside each other on the basis of origin;4° encouraging everyone's multi-layered identity development from the shared pedestal of enlightenment values as contained in the Constitution and international human rights treaties;5° combat any form of discrimination and racism;6° committed to nuanced perception;7° developing a supported and substantiated policy. <p>Furthermore, the participation organisation represents the interests of persons of foreign origin vis-à-vis the Flemish government; issues policy recommendations, sensitises local actors and supports them in taking initiatives to promote policy participation of persons of foreign origin.</p> <p>The participation organisation is part of advisory bodies of the Flemish government with regard to work, education, public broadcasting, etc.</p> <p>Composition:</p> <p>As mentioned in Q.2, LEVL is independent network organisation, recognised by the Flemish government as participation organisation for the period 2022-2026, to advocate for people with a migration background in Flanders and Brussels.</p> <p>LEVL works closely with a broad network consisting of civil society organisations, experts, authorities and academics in function of specific and concrete challenges to achieve proportional and equal participation of persons with a</p>
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			<p>migration background. The list of the network, available on https://levl.be/ons-netwerk/, is dynamic and not exhaustive.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>The participation organisation is not a platform with permanent partners who meet on a regular basis. The participation organisation works with different partners, organisations, companies, local authorities, academics, ... (see question above) on certain themes such as policy participation, work, education, anti-discrimination, image/nuanced portrayal of persons with a migration background in the media, ...</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>Yes, the questions 1 to 4 and 6 are answered for the regional immigrant consultative body of the Flemish Community.</p> <p>As mentioned above, the participation organisation LEVL is not an umbrella organisation of migrant groups, but works as a broader network organisation to represent the target group of persons of foreign origin.</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>Every five years, a Living Together in Diversity Survey (Survey Samenleven in Diversiteit) of the Flemish Agency for Home Affairs is carried out. It concerns a large-scale survey conducted among people of Belgian, Moroccan, Turkish, Polish, Romanian and Congolese origin in Flanders and Brussels, with a particular focus on the aspects of living together in diversity that often remain underexposed in the administrative data and general population surveys. In the second edition of 2022, a representative sample of persons of Afghan origin was also taken into account. This survey is held online and face-to-face. The report was published in 2023. More information available on: Over de</p>
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			<p>survey Samenleven in diversiteit (vlaanderen.be). Furthermore, the Living Together Barometer (Barometer Samenleven) of the Flemish Agency for Home Affairs (Agentschap Binnenlands Bestuur) is a dashboard that shows eight objectives of living together in diversity: labour force participation, education participation, social and civic networks, connectedness, citizenship, financial capability, equal treatment, knowledge of Dutch. It shows for each objective in which direction the situation is evolving (positive / negative / no change) and thus the annual evolutions in integration policy. The indicators consist of data from administrative data sources as well as data from a survey specially developed for this purpose (Survey Barometer Samenleven). This survey is an online and postal survey among a representative sample (national register) of persons of Belgian, EU and non-EU origin, both among persons born abroad and among persons born in Belgium (1st and 2nd generation). More information available on https://www.barometersamenleven.be/. Data are collected and updated annually (2022-2023-2024).</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Croatia</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>No</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p>

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			<p>n/a</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>No</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>An instrument by which migrants can influence the creation of laws and policies is consultation with the interested public, during which document proposals are publicly published and proposals/suggestions can be made. Also, through implementation of integration projects, proposals for further development of policies or practices are most often made.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Cyprus</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>b. Consultative committees inside the government</p>

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3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?

The Republic of Cyprus maintains a consultive body titled “Advisory Committee for the integration of Migrants”. According to the decision 72.672 of the Council of Ministers, the Advisory Committee for the Integration of Migrants is responsible for national policies and activities concerning integration of third country nationals to the Cypriot society, including supervising the implementation of the national action plan for integration. The chair of the Committee is the Ministry of Interior. The other members who participate in the Committee are the Ministry of Labor and Social Insurance, Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth, the Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare, the General Growth Directorate of the Ministry of Finance, the Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights, Trade Unions, the Union of Cyprus Municipalities, the Union of Cyprus Communities and up to three NGOs.

4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?

Despite the fact that the Committee has not met since June 2021, with the establishment of the Deputy Ministry of Migration and International Protection and its formal operation in June 2024, the Committee is expected to reassume its duties.

5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).

Five regional intercultural networks currently operate in the cities of Nicosia, Larnaca, Limassol, Paphos and Famagusta with the support of the Deputy Ministry of Migration. These networks were formed in 2021, in order to design and implement integration activities at the local level, with the cooperation of local authorities and members of the civil society, including migrants and informal migrant organizations. These networks are often used as platforms to facilitate the dialogue between the national authorities and migrants, concerning integration policies and activities.

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			<p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Czech Republic</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>D.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>Informal forum is called "Meeting of Stakeholders on the Topic of Integration of Immigrants in the Czech Republic". So far, 20 meetings have been organized. Mainly key NGOs, including those founded by immigrants, representatives of large municipalities, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs participated in the meetings and work.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>The last meeting took place on 3.12.2021. So far no further meeting has been prepared by the main organizing NGO (People in Need). The main reason is probably the increased cooperation and very frequent meetings between the</p>

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			<p>non-profit and state sectors based on the need to intensify cooperation especially after the arrival of persons with temporary protection.</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>No</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>No</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Estonia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>The National Minorities Cultural Council, which advises the Ministry of Culture on issues related to the cultural activities and integration of national minorities. The Ida-Virumaa Roundtable of National Cultures, which operates regionally and involves representatives from various cultural associations in the Ida-Viru County. To address the integration of the Roma and to coordinate information, a Council for Roma Integration has been established under</p>

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			<p>the Ministry of Culture. These structures serve as forums for dialogue and consultation between the government and national minorities.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>The National Minorities Cultural Council comprises representatives from various national minority cultural associations. It functions to provide recommendations to the Ministry of Culture on policies and actions that support the cultural activities and integration of national minorities. The council consists of 26 members appointed for a term of up to five years. The Ida-Virumaa Roundtable of National Cultures includes representatives from different cultural organizations within Ida-Viru County. It focuses on organizing events, such as conferences, seminars, and cultural festivals, to promote integration and cultural exchange among different communities. The Council for Roma Integration competence includes the analysis of Roma integration issues and, as a result, making proposals to relevant organizations to resolve these issues and promote Roma integration. The Ministry of Culture also participated in the work of the European Commission's national Roma contact point and represented Estonia in the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts on Roma and Travellers.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>These bodies meet regularly based on need, with the last meeting of the National Minorities Cultural Council taking place recently in early 2024, reflecting their ongoing active engagement in cultural and integration matters. The Council for Roma Integration met twice in 2023.</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>YES. Under the activity "Supporting local governments in providing integration services" (co-funded by ESF+, with the Ministry of Culture as implementing body and the Union of Estonian Cities and Municipalities as executing body;</p>
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			<p>currently 5 partner municipalities: Tartu, Tallinn, Rakvere, Pärnu, Saaremaa municipality) one of the objectives is to set up participatory assemblies of new immigrants, people with different linguistic and cultural backgrounds, and returnees. The aim is to involve the target group seeking their feedback and participation in developing relevant services on local level. Tallinn city has already started with meetings called „Lõimumiskoda“ (Chamber of Integration), other partner municipalities are currently planning similar activities. The goal is to have at least 7 such assemblies in 7 different municipalities of Estonia by the year 2029.</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>No formal mechanisms are in place. The Integration Foundation (Integratsiooni Sihtasutus) provides various support services for immigrants, including language courses and cultural programs.</p>
+	EMN NCP Finland	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>YES; The Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations (ETNO), Finland (https://oikeusministerio.fi/en/the-advisory-board-for-ethnic-relations). In addition, the Ministry of Labour and the Economy has an integration partnership programme, which brings together operators and increases multi-professional and diverse cooperation (https://kotoutuminen.fi/en/partnership-programme).</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>ETNO: b. or e. Permanent, consultative committee. The status and continuity is secured by the legislation: Appointing of the Advisory Board for four years at a time, the tasks and functions and the composition are laid down in the Government Degree 771/2015. (available in Finnish, Swedish). Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, chairs</p>

			<p>the Advisory Board. The secretariat of the Advisory Board is situated in the Ministry of Justice.</p> <p>THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME: e. The programme is coordinated by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, but it is an open network and its events and activities can be utilised by all operators.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>ETNO:</p> <p>3a. Main functions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•The Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations (Etno) serves as a national forum for dialogue. Besides the national Advisory Board, there are seven regional advisory boards for ethnic relations.•The main purpose of Etno is to enable dialogue, in other words regular cooperation and better understanding, between immigrants, ethnic minorities, authorities, political parties and civil society organisations. The members of Etno meet regularly, share information and bring various issues and different perspectives into public debate. Etno strives to promote positive attitudes and good relations between population groups, for example by organising open discussion events and raising awareness of diversity in Finland.•Etno is a network of experts: Etno forms a network of experts specialising in questions relating to migration, integration, equality, participation and influencing opportunities of immigrants, and dialogue between different population groups. Etno can set up working groups and issue opinions and statements. Etno can also make proposals or act as a partner in research and development projects. Etnos' members participate in the preparation of opinions and in the work of different working groups. By participating in the preparation, it is possible to influence decision-making, legislation and structures of society.•Etno has an advisory role: The Advisory Board may exert influence in society by engaging in public debate and by increasing understanding and knowledge. Etno can, for example, issue recommendations and statements and launch initiatives. The Advisory Board has no power of decision or executive power. The recommendations issued by Etno are not legally binding. <p>3b. Composition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•The National level Advisory Board:
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">•A chairperson and at least two and at most three vice-chairpersons as well as at most 34 other members and their personal deputies.•The Advisory Board is chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice. The Vice-Presidium must include a representative of immigrants or ethnic minorities and a representative of political parties represented in Parliament.•The administrative branches of the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health are represented in the Advisory Board.•The Advisory Board also includes representatives of political parties represented in Parliament, registered associations representing immigrants and ethnic minorities, registered religious communities, the Association of Finnish local and Regional authorities, key labour market organisations and regional advisory board.•At least ten of the members of the Advisory Board must represent immigrants or ethnic minorities.•The Ministry of Justice may appoint permanent experts to the Advisory Board.•The Advisory Board has a full-time Secretary General and Secretary who are employed by the Ministry of Justice. <p>Composition of all seven regional level Advisory Boards;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•A chairperson and a deputy chairperson as well as at least 10 and at most 14 other members and their personal deputies.•The chairperson or vice-chairperson must represent immigrants or ethnic minorities.•At least half of the members of the regional advisory board must be representatives of immigrants or ethnic minorities.•The regional advisory board may include representatives from the regional Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment, the Regional State Administrative Agency, key municipalities and the migration and multiculturalism councils and advisory boards set up by them, organisations representing immigrants and ethnic minorities, non-governmental organisations, and stakeholders in working life and business life.•The Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment may appoint experts to the regional advisory board. <p>THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME:</p>
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			<p>3a Functions: According to the Partnership Programme's website, it "supports the effectiveness of the work promoting integration and social inclusion by bringing together operators and increasing multi-professional and diverse cooperation". The operation of the partnership programme is based on an open dialogue. The aim is to challenge old thinking patterns, produce current information, share successful practices and develop the operation forward. In the partnership programme joint forums created, where it is possible to have an open discussion and where the latest information is combined with the practical know-how of experts. The programme organises different kind events for dialogue; networking days, collecting and sharing good practices and events were different organisations, public, private, third sector organisations as well as researchers can present their organisations and their work.</p> <p>3b Composition: Organisations can participate in the programme according to their own needs. The participants of the partnership programme are, for example, national and regional officials, representatives of municipalities and educational institutions, NGOs, immigrant associations and organizations, religious communities and researchers</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•National level Advisory Board held its most recent meeting on 4 June 2024.•All seven regional level Advisory Boards held/ will held its recent meetings during May-June 2024.•The partnership programme's networking days are 4 times a year, the info session on the organisations every week. <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>YES.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Etno Advisory Board in Southern Finland: Uusimaa region, Häme region and Southeast Finland;
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Etno Advisory Board in Western Finland: Varsinais-Suomi region and Satakunta region;•Etno Advisory Board in Pirkanmaa and Central Finland;•Etno Advisory Board in Eastern Finland: Pohjois-Savo region, North Karelia region and Etelä-Savo region;•Etno Advisory Board in Ostrobothnia: Ostrobothnia region and South Ostrobothnia region;•Etno Advisory Board in Northern Finland: North Ostrobothnia region and Kainuu region;•Etno Advisory Board in Lapland. <p>In addition, the Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY Centres) have their own regional partnership programmes, where they organise their own regional events.</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>Yes, some municipalities have appointed local level consultative bodies ie. Immigrant Councils or Advisory Boards. Their status or continuity is not secured by the legislation.</p> <p>The New Integration Act that will come into force 1.1.2025 encourages the municipalities to set up a multidisciplinary cooperation group at the local level to promote immigration and integration and good population relations, if the service needs of immigrants in the municipality require multidisciplinary cooperation. The municipality convenes the cooperation group on its own initiative or on the initiative of another entity belonging to the cooperation group. The group can consist of, for example, authorities such as other municipalities, the employment area, the ELY centre (The Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment), the welfare area, the Social Insurance Institution, the Digital and Population Information Agency, the Immigration Office and the Police, reception centres in the area as well as local immigrant, civil, employee and employer organisations and religious communities. The municipality must ensure that especially organisations and immigrants living in the territory of the municipality can participate in planning to promote integration.</p>
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	EMN NCP France	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes. The national strategy for the reception and integration of refugees presented at the Inter-ministerial Committee on Integration on 5 June 2018 introduced the participation of refugees in civic life as one of its priorities. Following on from this inter-ministerial committee on integration, the priorities for the years 2021, 2023 and 2024 for the integration policy of newly arrived third-country nationals and beneficiaries of international protection (set respectively by the Ministry of the Interior’s following circulars: 17 February 2021, the of 17 February 2021, the instruction of 8 February 2023 and the circular of 26 March 2024) reaffirmed the need for an “active governance of the integration policy including all parties”, including legal third-country nationals, which has made it possible to gradually involve them in the policies that concern them. It is in this context that the Inter-ministerial delegation for the Reception and Integration of Refugees (DIAIR) was created in 2018 as the main mechanism for developing tools to ensure dialogue between third-country nationals, including refugees, and the national government. The DIAIR has been given responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the national strategy for the integration of refugees, in particular with a view to organising dialogue between immigrant groups and the national government. The DIAIR is headed by an Inter-ministerial Delegate for Reception and Integration appointed by the Council of Ministers of 24 January 2018 with the task of helping to define and lead the policy for the Reception and Integration of refugees. He is supported by 5 advisors seconded by various ministries concerned: in addition to the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministries of Solidarity and health, National Education, Territorial Cohesion, Ecological Transition and Labour. The head of the “Migrants” unit of the Inter-ministerial delegation for Housing and Access to Housing (DIHAL) acts as the advisor for “Refugee Accommodation”. In compliance with the mission letter of 3 May 2018 from the Prime Minister, the Inter-ministerial Delegate for the Reception and Integration of Refugees must implement, as part of his missions to support refugees in mastering the French language, in health and social care, access to employment, housing, training, education, culture and rights, mobilising local and regional authorities, civil society and refugees and, in conjunction with the General Directorate for Foreign Nationals in France, monitoring “resettled refugees; local and regional authorities, associations and civil society, a comprehensive coordination and mobilisation of all stakeholders at every level (central and decentralised authorities, local authorities, associations and civil society). Subsequently, the aforementioned instruction of 8 February 2023 and circular of 26 March 2024 emphasised the</p>
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			<p>need to involve legally residing third-country nationals in the public policies implemented to affect them, thereby strengthening their participation in the development of these policies, in particular the integration policy. It should be reminded that until 2018, there was no forum for dialogue between migrant groups and the national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures, either to gather the opinions of exiled people as users of the administrations responsible for dealing with their situation or as the subject of asylum and immigration policies, as consultation is not a practice that fits easily into the French political model, particularly for regalian policies such as immigration and asylum policies. By way of illustration, only associations, in particular those that run schemes funded by the public authorities and are therefore considered to be service providers, are consulted from time to time on the content of the immigration and asylum policies that they help to implement on the ground.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>The tools developed by the Inter-ministerial delegation for the Reception and Integration of Refugees (DIAIR) to ensure dialogue between third-country nationals, in particular refugees, and the national government have been set up:</p> <p>exchange forum bringing together a wide range of stakeholders involved in the integration policy: annual meetings of stakeholders involved in the integration of refugees (AGORA); the integration week for legally residing newly arrived third-country nationals launched in 2021 by the Ministry of the Interior, the DIAIR and its institutional partners;</p> <p>working groups bringing together a wide range of players involved in the integration policy: the Lab'R workshops; a training programme for third-country nationals benefiting from international protection aiming at integrating them into decision-making bodies: The Academy for the Participation of Refugees.</p> <p>In addition, other mechanisms for the participation of legally residing third-country nationals in the public policies that concern them have been mentioned in both the instruction of 8 February 2023 and the circular of 26 March 2024 of the Ministry of the Interior, in particular:</p> <p>the participation of legally residing third-country nationals in steering committees: in this respect, the circular of 26 March 2024 mentioned the development in 2024 of the users' involvement, i.e. foreign third-country nationals</p>
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			<p>affected by the public policies implemented, drawing inspiration from the modelling work on the participation of beneficiaries of the integration policy in governance bodies, such as steering committees. In addition, the circular of 26 March 2024 mentioned the “need to reflect on the conditions that would make it possible to include representatives of third-country nationals on the selection committees for territorial calls for projects and in the governance of the AGIR programme, a structuring programme for the integration of beneficiaries of international protection;</p> <p>highlighting successful integration projects, in particular through testimonies.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>Concerning the tools developed by the Inter-ministerial Delegation for the Reception and Integration of refugees (DIAIR) to ensure dialogue between third-country nationals, in particular refugees, and the national government: The annual meetings of those involved in the integration of refugees, known as AGORA, are meetings at which refugees speak alongside associations, institutions and academics on topics relating to integration, enabling them to reflect on good practice and improvements that the DIAIR and other stakeholders in the integration policy can put in place for the integration of refugees. In this respect, the meeting organised on 25 November 2019 was devoted to taking better account of the voice of refugees. Associations, institutions and refugees had the opportunity to share their ideas on the theme of participation, to talk about what is already done and their ideas for developing these forums where the views of those most concerned are taken into account. It was decided to set up a consultative council of so that the members of this delegation and the Ministry of the Interior in particular could involve refugees in discussions on national policies;</p> <p>The Academy for the Participation of Refugees: the need to design and implement public policies that meet the needs of persons and territories has led the DIAIR, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the French institute of international relations (IFRI) to announce the establishment of the Academy for the Participation of Refugees in 2020, which aims to hear the views of refugees on issues relating to their integration, while involving them directly in the decisions that concern them. In fact, the academy prize-winners have the opportunity to join the decision-making bodies of the Academy’s partner organisations (boards of directors, project selection juries, etc.), whether they are associations, philanthropic organisations or government bodies.</p> <p>The Lab’R workshops are made up of a wide-range of participants, including representatives of governments</p>
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			<p>departments, businesses, associations, researchers, refugees, etc., who contribute to the development of a practical tool (computer graphics, best practice manual, video script) addressing a very specific theme in order to collectively find solutions to the difficulties raised during the initial discussions. The aim of these working groups is to share experiences, take stock of the various obstacles and come up with solutions. On the basis of these discussions, an operational kit will be drawn up to support future project leaders and elected representatives;</p> <p>The Ministry of the Interior, the DIAIR and its institutional partners have launched an integration week for legally residing newly arrived third-country nationals starting in 2021. The aim of this week is to deal with all newcomers and to involve all those affected by the public policies implemented. The aim is to inform the general public about the integration policy for third-country nationals. The week culminates in a national seminar.</p> <p>Concerning the other mechanisms mentioned in the 2023 and 2024 priorities relating to the integration policy priorities for newly arrived third-country nationals, including refugees:</p> <p>Strategic steering committees meet regularly in each region and department and deal with the problems of newly arrived third-country nationals as a whole. Chaired by the Prefect or their representative, this steering committee must bring together all the stakeholders in the integration policy: State operators responsible for the republican integration contract (The French office for immigration and integration, OFII), operators of the public employment service and the public integration and employment service, various levels of local authorities, accommodation and housing stakeholders, associations, representatives of the economic world and businesses. For example, the national strategic committee for the national plan for the reception and integration of asylum seekers (SNADAR), which was defined by the law of 29 July 2015 on the reform of the right of asylum, and supplemented by the law of 10 September 2018 to ensure a territorial rebalancing of the burden of asylum seekers' reception, meets every six months and is chaired by the General Director for Foreign Nationals in France. It brings together all the central government departments and operators involved in the integration policy (in particular the Inter-ministerial delegation for the Reception and Integration of refugees-DIAIR, the Directorate for the Integration and Access to Nationality, the Asylum Directorate, the Department of Statistics, Studies and Documentation, the Inter-ministerial Delegation for Accommodation and Access to Housing-DIHAL, the general delegation for Employment and Vocational Training within the ministry of Employment, The French Office for immigration and integration OFII, the general secretariat for regional Affairs, the representatives of associations involved in the integration of newly arrived third country nationals, as well as experts and qualified personalities;</p> <p>Testimonies: these initiatives involve sharing personal success stories and highlighting the contribution made by</p>
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			<p>foreign third-country nationals to society as a whole.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>Concerning the tools developed by the Inter-ministerial delegation for the reception and integration of refugees (DIAIR):</p> <p>On 22 May 2024, the sixth annual national meeting of persons involved in the Reception and Integration for refugees (AGORA) brought together more than 300 participants to discuss the theme of “social work at the heart of the integration”. The Inter-ministerial delegate for the Reception and Integration of refugees wanted to highlight the essential role of social workers who are often overlooked in the integration of refugees. During the meeting, a number of speakers from institutions, associations and universities took the floor, including refugees who illustrated the importance of social work through their testimonies;</p> <p>The third intake of the Refugee participation Academy started in March 2024;</p> <p>On 13 March 2024, the 17th workshop organised by the Inter-ministerial delegation for the Reception and Integration of refugees (DIAIR) and the Ministry of Sport and the Olympic and Paralympic Games was held as part of the Lab’R, the DIAIR’s action research laboratory. Entitled “integrating refugees through sport: a practice to be democratised”. The workshop brought together persons working in the fields of reception, integration and the sporting movement. Refugees, associations, sports federations, government operators and ministries were present to reflect collectively on the beneficial uses of sport for refugees;</p> <p>The third integration week took place from 16 to 20 October 2023. More than 530 events were organised throughout France to promote the integration of foreign third-country nationals, with the help of all the stakeholders involved in the integration: government departments and operators, local authorities, associations, businesses and beneficiaries.</p> <p>Concerning the other mechanisms mentioned in the 2023 and 2024 priorities relating to the integration policy priorities for newly arrived third-country nationals, including refugees:</p> <p>A part of the current review of the SNADAR 2024-2027, a consultative committee of beneficiaries of international protection was consulted. Until this revision, the committee only included representatives of NGOs;</p> <p>As part of the implementation of the Inter-ministerial plan for Equality between Women and Men 2023-2027 “All Equal”, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry for Equality between Women and Men and the Fight against</p>
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			<p>Discrimination jointly launched on 8 March 2024, a call for expressions of interest aimed at associations for the organisation of awareness-raising workshops on gender equality for newly arrived, with the particularity of mobilising, as ambassadors, foreign women who have been living in France for more than 5 years and who have a successful integration record.</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>The local level has pioneered initiatives to encourage the participation of migrants in order to involve them more closely in the public policies that concern them. First of all, specific forums for participation have been created in some local authorities in the form of consultative councils for foreign residents to enable foreign residents, particularly those without the right to vote and stand for election, to participate in the life of the city by producing a collective reflection that enriches local public policies. In this way, these consultative councils can be instruments for producing a citizenship of residence, distinct from national citizenship. This inclusion in the mechanisms of participatory and representative democracy is reflected in the rules adopted by these councils of foreign residents in several French cities (Nantesin 2005; Strasbourg in 2009,; Saint Etienne in 2018,; Aubervilliers in 2009 ; Montpellier in 2013). However, although such consultative structures exist to encourage the participation of refugees and migrants in public life, they remain limited, whether because of language barriers or lack of availability due to economic and social difficulties. Local authorities have also set up participatory democracy projects, such as participatory budgets, district councils and public debate commissions, to encourage migrants, including refugees to take part in the reception and integration policies. In 2015, for example, the city of Grenoble launched the “Grenoble Terre d’accueil” platform, a physical and digital space for gathering proposals from citizens for solidarity with migrants (rooms to lend, donations of equipment) as well as identifying the needs of associations working in the field, and an “international house” was created to promote these initiatives, make premises available and facilitate networking. In 2019, a number of projects led by migrants, including undocumented migrants, were proposed as part of the participatory budget, including the “garden without borders” project, a garden open to all that had been funded by the city. In Montreuil sous Bois, in the Paris region, the residents of hostels for migrant workers from</p>
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			<p>West Africa are true partners for the town's elected representatives and departments. Numerous projects have been devised in consultation with them, including the project to requisition a government building for the temporary rehousing of several hundred persons living in a hostel that had become unfit for habitation.</p> <p>Finally, the participation of third-country nationals is particularly valued by the associations that organise the reception and integration of refugees and migrants in France, in order to ensure that reception and integration programmes are appropriate and to build collective proposals for improving public policies based on their personal experiences. In particular, a far-reaching reform of social and medico-social action included in 2002 law on user's right the obligation to create forums for the participation in accommodation establishments, for example in the form of social life councils or, in some cases, the use of other forms of participation, such as self-expression groups. This obligation applies to facilities such as reception centres for asylum seekers or temporary accommodation centers. Associations can also take the initiative of gathering opinions of the people they receive, like France Terre d'asile, which carried out a national consultation in 2018. In addition, the participation of refugees and migrants is more advanced in other associations. In fact, the fact that these organisations are not managers of schemes and are subject to specific regulations gives them a great deal of flexibility in implementing their actions. Some projects are co-constructed, co-run or even run exclusively by exiled persons. In addition to taking part in co-created programmes of collecting the opinions of people in care, migrants sometimes take part in the decision-making bodies of certain structures or collectives (boards of directors, general meetings, management borders, etc.). They are consulted as experts. In addition, many associations working specifically to welcome and support migrants were founded by exiled persons who had recently arrived in France. Created from a personal network, they then broaden their base and become more structured over time. The creation of associations is an accomplished form of participation.</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>Yes. Parliamentary work includes hearings in committee with civil society stakeholders, when preparing bills relating to asylum and immigration, which highlights the impact on public policy-making of greater participation by migrants and refugees in the programmes and governance of traditional associations and/or the development of exiled persons.</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Germany</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>d. informal forums</p> <p>The Federal Government Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration and at the same time Federal Government Commissioner for Anti-Racism holds a regular high-ranking dialogue with the umbrella migrant organizations in Germany on current topics in the field of migration and integration politics. The dialogue takes place several times a year in the Federal Chancellery. It enables the migration organizations to bring in their expertise in the field of migration and integration politics.</p> <p>The umbrella migrant organizations represent refugees who have only recently arrived in Germany as well as people with immigration background who live in Germany for a long time or were born there.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>The high-ranking dialogue consists of the umbrella migration organisations in Germany and the Federal Government Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration and at the same time Federal Government Commissioner for Anti-Racism. Its main function is to consult the migration organizations on current migration and integration politics and to enable them to bring in their expertise on the respective policies.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>April 2024</p>
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			<p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>As Germany is a federal country this depends on each of the 16 federal states (Bundesländer). In some federal states (Bundesländer) there are “structured mechanisms” on the basis of “participation – guidelines”. Usually it is about advisory committees (“Expertenbeiräte”).</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>Migrant organisations are consulted by policymakers and authorities depending on the extent to which migration and integration politics are affected in current developments or policies and depending on the existence of guidelines.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Greece</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>YES</p> <p>The Social Integration Directorate of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, in collaboration with local authorities, migrants and refugees’ organizations and communities, is competent for coordinating and providing support for the functioning of the so-called “Migrant and Refugee Integration Councils” (MRICs). The MRICs were founded by article 78 of law 3852/2010, as modified by article 79 of law 4555/2018, according to which they are established after a decision of the Municipal Council and consist of representatives of recognized bodies of migrants and refugees as well. The MRICs constitute consultative bodies of Municipalities, whose role is to strengthen the social integration of migrants/refugees in local societies and to deal with problems that they are faced with. Moreover, with a view to</p>

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		<p>acknowledge all the existing groups of migrants and refugees, to identify and examine their needs, as well as to provide them with information and support (through dialogue and exchange), the Hellenic Ministry of Migration and Asylum, through the Social Integration Directorate, issued (in February 2019) an “Open Invitation to Record Recognized Entities Representing Third-Country Nationals”. It is thought that recognized entities of third country nationals are important mediators who play a crucial role in ensuring and promoting the welfare of migrants and refugees, therefore the central administration seeks contact, exchange and cooperation. So, the main objective of the Recording is to establish a mutually beneficial collaboration and communication between migrant-refugee communities and the Ministry. The possibility for the groups of migrants and refugees to participate in the Recording is continuously open through the official website of the Ministry and the relevant Registration Form. For further information, see: https://migration.gov.gr/en/migration-policy/integration/drasis-koinonikisentaxis-se-ethniko-epipedo/anagnorismenoi-foreis-sylogikis-ekprosopisis-politon-triton-choron/</p> <p>On behalf of the (national) migrants and refugee groups, it is worth noting (indicatively) two major Fora that promote third-country nationals’ support and integration, in dialogue and cooperation with the central (and the local) administration: The Greek Forum of Migrants is a network of migrant organizations and communities, founded in September 2002. It functions as a union - body, and the number of its members today raises up to more than 40 communities - organizations. The mission of the Forum is to promote migrant’s integration by enhancing their individual and collective responsibility and participation, through collaboration with institutions, NGOs and society - on a national and european level. For further information, see: https://www.migrant.gr/cgi-bin/pages/index.pl?arlang=English&type=index</p> <p>Additionally, the Greek Forum of Refugees is a non-profit association consisting of refugee and migrant communities, individuals and professionals working all together to support and empower asylum seekers, refugees, migrants and stateless persons. The association was founded in 2013, in order to function as a reference organization, both for the refugee communities and for the refugees who wish to address collectively and in an organized manner their requests to the State, but also to the host society. For further information, see: https://refugees.gr/</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations’ forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p>
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			<p>The answer to Question 1 referred first to the “Migrant and Refugee Integration Councils” (MRICs), which are consultive (public) bodies operating at the local level with the participation of civil society (migrants and refugees’) associations. The answer to Question 1 also referred to the “Registry of Recognized Entities Representing Third-Country Nationals” organized by the Hellenic Ministry of Migration and Asylum, through the Social Integration Directorate, which is a public body, as well as to the Greek Forum of Migrants and the Greek Forum of Refugees, which are civil society organisations’ fora.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>see answer to Q1</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>The leadership (Minister and Deputy Minister responsible for integration) and high-level officials (Secretaries-General) of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum met with migrant and refugee communities in January 2024. The meeting revolved primarily around reforms concerning legal migration, as well as around integration policies. This meeting was seen as the start of a series of regular meetings in the framework of a structured dialogue between the Ministry and the civil society organizations</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>YES</p> <p>As already mentioned above (see answer to Q1), the so-called “Migrant and Refugee Integration Councils” (MRICs) are established after a decision of the Municipal Council and consist of representatives of recognized bodies of migrants and refugees as well. They constitute consultative bodies of Municipalities, whose role is to strengthen the</p>
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			<p>social integration of migrants/refugees in local societies and to deal with problems that they are faced with.</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>“Migrant Integration Centers” (MICs) The “Migrant Integration Centers” were established by Law 4368/2016 and operate as branches of the municipal “Community Centers”. To date, there are 11 Migrant Integration Centers operating in 11 different municipalities countrywide and providing a large range of services to third-country nationals who reside legally in Greece. More precisely, Migrant Integration Centers:</p> <p>a) provide information, services and counseling with regards to social integration and social networking issues, b) collaborate and refer requests to other competent associations, services or bodies, c) organize activities, such as courses on Greek language, history and culture, as well as intercultural activities and activities that facilitate access to the job market. Within the current programming period 2021-2027, the Social Integration Directorate aspires to increase the number of Migrant Integration Centers operating in around the country and strengthen the services that they provide.</p> <p>“HELP DESK” for Social Integration The Social Integration Directorate of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum has created and manages the "Help Desk for Social Integration" service in order to answer questions and queries of beneficiaries of international protection regarding integration issues (such as Greek language learning, job counseling, housing, financial assistance, the issuance of a Tax Registration Number (TIN) and Social Security Registration Number (AMKA), the HELIOS program, the Migrants Integration Centers (MICs), the asylum procedure, the issuance and renewal of a residence permit, etc.). Interested beneficiaries of international protection have access to the Help Desk through the website of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum. In case the question concerns an issue that does not fall into the competence of the Social Integration Directorate, the question is being forwarded to the competent service of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum or other ministries, local administrations, public services etc.</p> <p>“Guide for Beneficiaries of International Protection” The Social Integration Directorate of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, in collaboration with the UNHCR,</p>
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			<p>formulated a brief, cohesive and comprehensible “Guide for Beneficiaries of International Protection” concerning basic sectors of their everyday life in Greece, such as employment, education, healthcare and welfare. The main purpose of the Guide is to provide beneficiaries of international protection and their families with access to useful, valid and reliable information, in order to facilitate their integration into Greek society and maintain social cohesion.</p>
	EMN NCP Hungary	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>No</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations’ forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p>

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			<p>No</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>No formal mechanisms are in place. Migrant communities usually discuss integration issues with municipalities.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Italy</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes. Law 125/2014 established the National Council for Development Cooperation (Consiglio Nazionale per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo - CNCS) as a permanent instrument of participation, consultation, and proposal of the Italian development cooperation system. The CNCS is composed of five theme-based working groups, among which Working Group 4 is dedicated to "Migration and Development."</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>The CNCS is a body composed of the main public and private stakeholders in the Italian development cooperation system. It is established by Article 16 of Law 125/2014 as a permanent instrument of participation, consultation, and proposal and is regulated by Ministerial Decree 1002/714/BIS of November 28, 2014, and subsequent amendments.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>The CNCS is chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation or by the Vice- Minister. It</p>

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			<p>meets at least once a year to express opinions on matters pertaining to development cooperation, particularly regarding the coherence of policy choices, strategies, guidelines, programming, forms of intervention, their effectiveness, and evaluation. The CNCS is also called upon to express its opinion on the Three-Year Planning and Policy Document for Development Cooperation Policy, following review by the Interministerial Committee for Development Cooperation (Comitato Interministeriale per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo CICS). The CNCS Secretariat is provided by the Directorate-General for Development Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.</p> <p>According to Decree 1002/714/BIS of November 28, 2014, and subsequent amendments, CNCS is composed of three types of members:</p> <p>Ex officio members for the duration of the office held: Minister, Vice- Minister, Director General of DGCS, Director of Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS); Representatives from the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, various Ministries, other entities, and networks of civil society organizations, which appoint their own representatives; Representatives of private entities, both non-profit and for-profit, as well as representatives of other parties involved in development cooperation or selected for their recognized experience, who are appointed by ministerial decree. Currently, the work of the CNCS is organized into five theme-based Working Groups, which convene several times throughout the year. These groups are responsible for assisting and supporting the work of the National Council by conducting thematic in-depth analysis, drafting documents, opinions and proposals, sharing experiences and best practices, and potential joint initiatives in their area of expertise. Participation in the Working Groups is open to all regular and substitute members of CNCS. The coordinators of the groups, who are appointed within the groups, may also invite to participate other people and experts on specific topics. Following the most recent update to the CNCS membership (DM 4600/686 bis and DM 4600/687 bis, both dated October 27, 2023), the five Working Groups were re-established and their Coordinators appointed:</p> <p>Working Group 1 “Agenda 2030 sustainable development follow-up: policy coherence, effectiveness and evaluation” (Seguiti dell’Agenda 2030 per lo Sviluppo sostenibile: coerenza delle politiche, efficacia e valutazione)</p> <p>Working Group 2 “Strategies and guidelines for Italian development cooperation” (Strategie e linee di indirizzo della cooperazione italiana allo sviluppo)</p> <p>Working Group 3 “Private sector role in development cooperation” (Ruolo del settore privato nella cooperazione allo sviluppo)</p> <p>Working Group 4 “Migration and Development” (Migrazioni e sviluppo)</p>
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			<p>Working Group 5 "Local Partnership" (Partenariato territorial)</p> <p>Working Group 4 "Migration and Development" includes representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI), the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP), the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, the Ministry of the Interior, Associazione Nazionale Comuni Italiani (ANCI), civil society organizations, diaspora associations, and universities. The group is divided into three subgroups: i) policy coherence with particular attention to the European framework; ii) integration of the migration theme in development cooperation policies and activities; iii) involvement of diasporas in the Italian Cooperation system. Working Group 4 also includes the Italian Coordination of Diasporas for International Cooperation (Coordinamento italiano delle diaspore per la cooperazione internazionale CIDCI), which was established on December 6, 2023 as an important result of the project "DRAFT the Future! Towards a Diaspora Forum in Italy." The CIDCI is composed of more than 100 associations active in nine regional networks (Piedmont, Lombardy, Liguria, Trentino, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Lazio, Apulia, Sicily and Sardinia) and its mandate covers development cooperation and global citizenship education activities. The Italian Diaspora Coordination constitutes, as well, an important intermediary for all actors working in the field of migration, both nationally and internationally: in this sense, it aims at advocacy and the establishment of co-planning paths, through which it collects and brings to institutional tables the instances of Diaspora representations. The methods of involving the Italian Diaspora in cooperation activities to improve its impact were the focus of the Fifth National Diaspora Summit held on February 10.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>On February 15th, 2024.</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>Please, see answer 3.</p>
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			<p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>No further mechanisms beyond those mentioned in the previous answers.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Latvia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>YES</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>c. Civil society organisations' forums</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>In 2018, within the AMIF-funded project the NGO "Shelter "Safe House"" established the consultative mechanism - "Dialogue Platform", involving representatives of municipalities, the private sector, state administration, and NGOs. This consultative mechanism aimed to provide support to the target group and to coordinate voluntary initiatives.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>The "Dialogue Platform" functioned until the end of 2023.</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of</p>

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			<p>integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>YES</p> <p>Generally, in order to involve the public in the performance of certain functions or tasks of the municipality, the municipality can establish advisory councils and commissions. The Local Government Law determines the activity of advisory councils in its territory. The need for the creation of an advisory council or commission, as well as the competence, composition and work organization are determined by the law or a decision or by-laws adopted by the council of the local government. According to the Local Government Law, the council of the local government has the right and, in the cases stipulated by law, also the obligation to organize consultations with residents, as well as to determine forms of public involvement not mentioned in the Local Government Law, in order to promote respect for the interests of the residents of the administrative territory of the municipality and the sustainable development of the municipality. The purpose of public involvement is to promote efficient, open and responsible municipal work and the compliance of this work with the interests of the residents of the administrative territory.</p> <p>The municipality of Riga participates in the MILE project - two-year project co-funded through the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. Its objective is to create a system of exchange and collaboration between municipalities and migrant communities. More information available on MILE website: https://mile-project.eu/</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>Within the AMIF 2021-2027 planning period it is expected that the institution that provides the functions of the One Stop Agency must also ensure the operation of a consultative mechanism for coordination and monitoring of intersectoral cooperation, involving the state administration, municipalities, private sector, universities and NGOs. At the moment to promote discussion and cooperation between institutions in the field of integration of third-country nationals, to facilitate the participation of third-country nationals, as well as non-governmental organizations representing them in the development of state policy in the field of integration, work has been started on the creation of a new advisory mechanism. The decision on a new advisory mechanism has been taken to ensure the creation of an effective and appropriate mechanism for the current situation. It has to be taken into account,</p>
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			<p>that there are very few migrant-led NGOs in Latvia, therefore the new advisory mechanism should include representatives of the target group (including from informal groups such as representatives united in Facebook groups).</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Lithuania</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p>

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			<p>No</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>While immigrants and national minorities are conceptually different, the instruments and organizational resources available to national minorities are also accessible to immigrants of the same ethnic or national background. This is especially relevant given the persistent legal ambiguity regarding when and how an immigrant becomes recognized as a minority. In Lithuania, policymakers and authorities employ several mechanisms to consult immigrants and national minorities on integration policies and measures. These mechanisms ensure that the voices of immigrants are heard and considered in the policy-making process.</p> <p>Department of National Minorities The Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania plays a crucial role in the integration of national minorities. It forms and implements policies that protect the legitimate interests of national minorities, ensuring their cultural identity is preserved, and promoting their participation in social, political, and cultural life. The department supports various initiatives, including annual cultural projects competitions and training programs aimed at fostering tolerance, civic engagement, and integration.</p> <p>House of National Communities The House of National Communities, founded by the Department of National Minorities, supports cultural, educational, and scientific activities for national minorities in Lithuania. Over 20 communities are active here, hosting events, running Sunday schools, and recently starting Lithuanian language courses for refugees from Ukraine and other communities. This institution plays a vital role in preserving cultural identities and facilitating the integration of various ethnic groups into Lithuanian society.</p> <p>National Communities Council The National Communities Council serves as an advisory body to the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, representing national minorities in policy coordination. It includes representatives from minorities based on population size - three members from minorities with over 100,000 people, two from those with 10,000 to 100,000, and one from smaller minorities. The Council monitors law implementation, promotes ethnic tolerance, supports minority associations, and fosters cultural development.</p>
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			<p>Refugee Council of Lithuania</p> <p>The Refugee Council of Lithuania, established in 2021 with the support of the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), is dedicated to empowering refugees and amplifying their voices. The Council implements various projects to support refugees, including entrepreneurship and digital skills development programs, capacity-building events, and networking sessions. It also focuses on advocating for refugees' rights, raising awareness through storytelling initiatives, and fostering partnerships with governmental institutions and NGOs to create a more inclusive environment for refugees.</p> <p>In addition to the above, when implementing integration policies, the Ministry of Social Security and Labor holds informal consultations with NGOs representing migrants. The Ministry has specific plans to provide funding enable the participation of such NGO in public policy decision-making.</p> <p>These mechanisms collectively contribute to the inclusive development of integration policies and measures, ensuring that the voices of national minorities, including immigrants and refugees, are considered in the policymaking process.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Luxembourg</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>YES. Article 7 of the Law of Intercultural living together which entered into force on 1st January 2024 establishes the High Council of intercultural living together.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>It is a public body (article 7).</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p>

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			<p>The missions of the High Council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1° to advise and assist the Minister in the field of intercultural living together ;2° to identify priorities in the field of intercultural living together, taking into account local and regional specificities;3° to give its opinion on the national action plan;4° to give its opinion on the content of the program;5° to contribute to the promotion of intercultural living together, including the fight against racism and all forms of discrimination. <p>The Higher Council gives its opinion, either on its own initiative or at the request of the Minister, on all matters relating to intercultural living together.</p> <p>It may carry out or commission surveys, analyses, studies, reports or opinions on the various aspects of intercultural living together.</p> <p>It is composed by thirty full members and thirty alternate members.</p> <p>Fourteen full and alternate members are appointed by the Minister in charge of the intercultural living together, including :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1° six representatives of the State ;2° six representatives of associations working in the field of intercultural living together;3° two representatives of the Syndicat des villes et communes luxembourgeoises (SYVICOL). <p>Sixteen full and alternate members representing the municipalities are elected in accordance with the procedures defined by Grand Ducal regulation of 28 February 2024.</p> <p>The term of office for full and alternate members is limited to six years, renewable. The alternate member replaces the full member in the event of impediment or early termination of the term of office.</p> <p>The High Council may appoint experts.</p> <p>The Grand Ducal regulation of 28 February 2024 specifies the organization and operation of the High Council as well as to specify the amount of compensation per plenary session and working group for members and experts called upon to collaborate in its work. The allowance may not exceed 100 euros, including travel expenses.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>The High Council has not been able to meet because the election of the 16 representatives of the municipalities will</p>
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			<p>only take place on 10 July 2024.</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>Yes. The Municipal Commission of intercultural living-together. It is a consultative commission whose remit shall include intercultural coexistence between all persons living and working in the municipality. This commission is mandatory in all communes (article 9). Their tasks include identifying priorities and possible obstacles in the field of intercultural living together at the municipal level; assisting the municipality in the development and implementation of measures and activities to promote intercultural living together at the municipal level; promoting access to information, civic participation and community life; encouraging dialogue, intercultural exchange and mutual understanding between all residents of the municipality; ensuring respect for the values of intercultural coexistence and, in particular, raising awareness and implementing measures to combat racism and all forms of discrimination in the municipality; electing municipal representatives to the High Council of intercultural living together. The members of the communal commission are appointed by the Municipal Council and must live or work in the commune. At least one representative of the Municipal Council is a member of the Municipal Commission of intercultural living-together. The composition and operation of the Commission are laid down by internal regulations (article 10).</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>No.</p>
	EMN NCP	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and</p>

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<p>Netherlands</p>		<p>measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes. In the context of the Civic Integration Act 2021, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment has established an expert group of newcomers named “Civic integration Platform.” This platform comprises representatives from several bottom-up civil society initiatives that are engaged in the field of civic integration and refugee advocacy.[1]</p> <p>[1] Information provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment on 17 June 2024.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations’ forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>Yes. The “Civic Integration Platform” is a consultative committee inside the government and a civil society organisations’ forum.[1]</p> <p>[1] Information provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment on 17 June 2024.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>The platform's objective is to establish a structural dialogue between networks that represent newcomers who have experience with civic integration and the central government. Through this platform, the experts consistently offer feedback on the national integration policy, convey firsthand experiences to policymakers and therefore help to improve the Dutch field of civic integration.[1]</p> <p>[1] Information provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment on 17 June 2024.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>The members of the “Civic integration Platform” come together every two months. The last meeting was on the 16th</p>
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			<p>of May and the next meeting is scheduled on the 24th of June.[1]</p> <p>[1] Information provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment on 17 June 2024.</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>At regional level in the field of civic integration, several cities facilitate dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures.[1]</p> <p>[1] Information provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment on 17 June 2024.</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>The government also attaches great value to active public discourse on matters relating to diversity and ethnicity through flexible dialogue. Flexible dialogue means that the government consults a range of partners, depending on the issue: professional experts, opinion leaders, those with knowledge gained by experience, and/or representatives of groups. The form taken by these consultations depends on the issue and the parties involved. In practice, therefore, they vary a great deal. For instance, in the context of the Decade for People of African Descent, several round-table meetings were organised. Representatives of Turkish organisations are consulted in studies into Turkish-Dutch people's sense of belonging, and people taking part in the civic integration procedure are involved in revising the civic integration system. This includes all types of people undergoing civic integration: family migrants and highly skilled migrants as well as refugees.</p> <p>Engaging in a dialogue with society also means being alert to signals from society. The Social Stability Expertise Unit (ESS) at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment maintains contact with key figures from ethnic-minority communities and organisations representing them. The unit also supports local authorities by enhancing their</p>
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			<p>knowledge base.[1]</p> <p>[1] Information provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment on 17 June 2024.</p>
EMN NCP Poland	Yes		<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>No. In Poland, there are no nationwide immigrant consultative bodies at the central level. However, the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy observes existence of institutions that could be described as advisory bodies in this area in some cities. However, there are initiatives of local governments and remain in their independent competence/jurisdiction. Additionally, in Poland there is a work in progress to create a nationwide migration policy, including an integration strategy. In its scope Integration Centers for Foreigners are going to be established throughout Poland and they might perform this function in the future.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>n/a</p>

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			<p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>Please see the answer to Q1.</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>No, there are no such mechanisms.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Portugal</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes. The Council for Migration and Asylum (official name: Conselho para as Migrações e Asilo).</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>a) Public body</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>The Council for Migration and Asylum is the consultative body for migration issues in Portugal. The first national immigrant consultative body in Portugal dates back to 1998, when it functioned as the Consultative Council for Immigration Affairs of the High Commission's Office for Immigration and Ethnic Minorities (ACIME), and later, in</p>

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			<p>2007, for the High Commission for Immigration and Intercultural Dialogue (ACIDI). In 2014, the Consultative Council for Immigration Affairs changed into the Council for Migration of the former High Commission for Migration (ACM). And in 2023, with the creation of the new Agency for Integration, Migration and Asylum (AIMA), the former Council for Migration was revamped into Council for Migration and Asylum (Decree-Law no. 41/2023). The mission of the Council for Migration and Asylum participates in defining the general lines of action of AIMA, and in the decision-making of AIMA'S Governing Board, ensuring participation and collaboration of public and private entities in the definition and implementation of migration and asylum policies. As defined in Law 41/2023 the Council for Migration and Asylum is made up of around fourty members, distributed as it follows: the president of AIMA's Governing Board, who chairs; one representative from each of the immigrant communities from Portuguese-speaking countries; one representative from each of the other three largest immigrant communities which are not Portuguese-speaking countries; one representative of unaffiliated associations not included in the immigrant communities from Portuguese-speaking countries, nor in the three largest immigrant communities which are not Portuguese-speaking countries; three representatives of NGOs in the area of migration; 15 representatives of public entities; 5 representatives of police authorities; one representative from each Regional Government; two representatives of employers' associations and two representatives of trade unions; one representative of the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities; one presentative of the Council of Portuguese Communities; and two citizens of notorious merit in matters of migration and asylum. On the 3rd June 2024 de Government presented the Action Plan for Migration which indicates that the role of this consultative body will be reviewed to serve as consultative body for the Government.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>The last meeting of the Council for Migration and Asylum took place in the 18th of October of 2023.</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p>
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			<p>Yes. Regional Immigrant Consultative bodies: The Regional Consultative Council for Immigration Affairs of the Autonomous Region of the Azores (official name: Conselho Consultivo Regional para os Assuntos da Imigração). Created in 2002, and recently reviewed (by Regional Regulatory Decree no. 36/2023/A), the Regional Consultative Council for Immigration Affairs aims to ensure the participation and collaboration of immigrants' associations, social partners and private institutions of social solidarity in defining and coordinating social integration policies and combating the exclusion of immigrants. Local Immigrant Consultative bodies: The Municipal Council for Interculturality and Citizenship of Lisbon City Council (official name: Conselho Municipal para a Interculturalidade e Cidadania) is one example of these Councils operating at local level. Created in 1993, and reviewed in 2009, the Municipal Council for Interculturality and Citizenship of Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, was established as an instrument for reinforcing immigrant integration policies, respecting different identities. It currently plays an important role as a consultative structure for the municipality, integrating several associations and promoting their active participation in the city's civic life.</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>Not specifically targeted to immigrants, nor exclusive of integration policies and measures; but in Portugal we have a mechanism named public consultation. Public consultation is, generally, a phase of legislative or administrative procedures that aims to ensure and encourage the democratic participation of citizens. Through public consultation, citizens are given an easy and immediate access to documentation and information on a specific subject that the legislator or administration intends to address, followed by a phase of collecting the opinion and suggestions of members of the public on possible solutions and priorities to be adopted. It is through public consultations that the Portuguese Government consults interested parties on all main political initiatives, making this process more transparent, responsible and effective.</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Serbia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>N/a</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>YES</p> <p>In accordance with the Law on Migration Management, the local self-governments are obliged to establish local council for migration. The main task of this council is to monitor and report on migration flows on the territory of the local self-government unit, propose programmes, measures and plans of activities to be undertaken for the</p>
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			<p>efficient migration management on their territories. The Local Migration Council is comprised of local self-government representatives and institutions relevant for migration issues at the local level i.e. the centre for social work, the police department, the employment service, local health institutions and school administration, as well as representative of associations (NVOs) dealing with issues pertinent to migration, as well as other persons engaged in activities significant for migrants.</p> <p>Policy planning at the local level is ensured through local plans, which are strategic and planning documents that determine the needs of different categories of migrants in the local self-government unit (refugees, IDPs, returnees, migrants without legal status, and asylum-seekers) and envisage appropriate measures, activities, and financial resources to improve their position.</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>The Commissariat for Refugees and Migration as the government authority responsible for the integration of beneficiaries and UNHCR have established a joint team to support beneficiaries of international protection. The other competent stakeholders are involved as necessary. This team organizes focus groups with beneficiaries to gather information on the effectiveness of integration support and establish a dialogue. In September 2023, the Commissariat and UNHCR conducted interviews with beneficiaries of international protection in order to identify their needs and challenges in integration.</p> <p>The Commissariat for Refugees and Migrations of the Republic of Serbia, UNHCR, and the National Employment Service signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 09.07.2021 to establish a mechanism to facilitate access to the labour market for applicants and beneficiaries of international protection. This mechanism envisages holding a focus group discussion with applicants and persons granted asylum to provide them with information on access to the right to work and support activities, as well as collect their opinions and encourage dialogue.</p>
	EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p>

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			<p>In principle no. However, if a migrants group would form a non-governmental organization there is a possibility to be invited as an ad-hoc expert to the meeting of the Steering Committee for Migration, Integration and Inclusion of Foreigners which is a main body responsible for implementation of the migration and integration policies of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>The mentioned Steering Committee is and interinstitutional (ministries) coordination body.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>See response to question 1.</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>The Steering Committee has its meetings on a regular basis, however as mentioned in question 1 to invite migrants associations (if any having a form of NGO) is only an ad-hoc option.</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>No.</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p>
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			<p>No. Few activities to talk to migrant groups were undertaken by large cities like Bratislava and Kosice, however this is not a set mechanism rather only an ad-hoc activity.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Slovenia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>/</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>/</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>/</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>No.</p>

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			<p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>No.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Spain</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>1. YES. At national level, the Forum for the Social Integration of Migrants (official name: “Foro para la Integración Social de los inmigrantes” - FISI). More information is available here: https://www.foroinmigracion.es/en/ and a contact is available here: https://www.foroinmigracion.es/en/contacto</p> <p>2- a. public body</p> <p>3- The Forum is made up of thirty members, distributed as follows: 10 members representing public administrations, 10 members representing immigrants and refugees through their legally constituted associations and 10 members representing social support organizations, including the most representative trade union and business organizations with an interest and presence in the field of immigration. The Forum has the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To formulate proposals and recommendations aimed at promoting the integration of immigrants and refugees into Spanish society. • To receive information on the programmes and activities carried out by the General State Administration, the Administrations of the Autonomous Communities and Local Administrations in the area of social integration of immigrants. • To collect and channel the proposals of social organizations active in the field of immigration, with a view to facilitating perfect coexistence between immigrants and the host society. • To draw up an annual report on the situation of the social integration of immigrants and refugees. • To issue a mandatory report on the regulatory projects of the Administration that affect the social integration of immigrants, as well as on the plans and programmes at the state level related to this matter, prior to their approval. • To promote or draw up studies and initiatives on matters related to the social integration of immigrants and

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			<p>refugees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To cooperate with other similar bodies at international, regional or local level with a view to coordinating and improving all those actions that benefit the social integration of immigrants and refugees. <p>4- Last time the Forum met was the 16th of April 2024.</p> <p>5- Yes. At regional level, most of the Autonomous Communities (regions) in Spain has similar institutions to the structured dialogue between immigrants and regional governments. The Spanish government is about to publish, during the following weeks, an update on the existence of regional forums.</p> <p>6- The structured dialogue is channelled through the Forum(s) specified above</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Sweden</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State have any national immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and national government in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO.</p> <p>No. There are no structural consultative bodies on the national level in Sweden.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, can you please indicate what type of institutions are they? a. Public bodies b. Consultative committees inside the government c. Civil society organisations' forums d. Informal forums e. Other (please indicate)</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q1, what are the main functions and their composition?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If you answer yes to Q1, when was the last time they met?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>5. In your member state, are there any regional and/or local immigrant consultative bodies or any other structured mechanisms for the dialogue between immigrant groups and local/regional governments in the formulation of integration policies and measures? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please can you please provide information on the institution(s).</p> <p>It is not common that local or regional authorities in Sweden consult migrant groups/associations through formal, set mechanisms. However, Swedish regional and municipal authorities have a large degree of independence and it would be possible for them to establish consultative bodies that include migrant associations.</p>
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			<p>6. In your member state, are there any other mechanism through which immigrants are consulted by policymakers and authorities on integration policies and measures? (Please describe).</p> <p>In the legislative process, new proposals are first analysed and conclusions presented in an official report. Before the Swedish Government takes up a position on the recommendations, the official report is referred for consideration to relevant bodies, such as central government agencies, special interest groups, local government authorities or other bodies whose activities may be affected by the proposals. As anyone is entitled to provide feedback, it is possible for migrant associations/groups, etc. to respond and give their input on recommendations/proposals.</p>
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