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Ad-Hoc Query on 2024.21 Language courses as part of the integration procedure

Requested by EMN NCP Luxembourg on 21 March 2024

Compilation produced on 2 June 2024

Responses from EMN NCP Belgium, EMN NCP Bulgaria, 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  
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Exported for: Wider Dissemination

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## 1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Social integration of third country nationals (TCNs) involves many policy areas and fields. Effective integration policies involve measures and actions which promote equal access to employment, education, training, health care, culture, justice, civic life, basic goods and services in general. Lack of proper support in one of the above mentioned fields (e.g. lack of language skills) may inevitably lead to, amongst other things, higher unemployment rates and earlier drop-out for TCNs.

As it is stated on the EU “Action Plan on the integration of third country nationals” COM (2016) 377 final “.....Education and training are among the most powerful tools for integration and access to them should be ensured and promoted as early as possible. The acquisition of basic skills is the foundation for further learning and the gateway to employment and social inclusion. Learning the language of the destination country is crucial for third country nationals to succeed their integration process.....”

In addition, education is a specific pillar of the National Strategy for the Integration of TCNs in Greece (2019), including measures:

- To ensure access to the education of the children of applicants/beneficiaries and beneficiaries of international protection and providing for specific programmes for new applicants and new applicants and beneficiaries of international protection of 15-18 years of age who do not form part of the compulsory formal education.
- To promote the implementation of language programs for adult migrants and immigrant women, asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection, given that knowledge of the host country's language is a key integration tool and makes it significantly easier to enter the labour market.
- To promote the modification of the framework for the recognition of qualifications and to promote the integration of applicants for and beneficiaries of international protection in higher and tertiary education

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- To promote the informing and education of teachers, as well as the sensitization of parents and pupils and of the local community as a whole in order to promote harmonious intercultural coexistence inside and outside of school

Furthermore, the National Integration Strategy for applicants and beneficiaries of international protection in Greece, includes measures:

- For enhancing and supporting the access of applicants and beneficiaries of international protection in formal and non formal education,
- For ensuring the access of children to school education
- For ensuring the access of adults to evening school as well as to non formal education.
- For promoting the European way of life, getting familiar with the democratic principles and the rule of law, getting informed about the rights and obligations of citizens, as well as for promoting the development of everyday life skills.

In this framework, please find below the questions regarding language requirements of TCN's:

Seeing the number of questions the co-chair of the ad-hoc query working group has approved that this ad-hoc query will count as 2 ad-hoc queries for reporting purposes and it will have a six-week deadline.

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

- 1. Does a third-country national have to meet language requirements to settle in your country? YES/NO.**
- 2. If you answer YES to question 1, what level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is required? (i.e. A1, A.2, B.1) How is it assessed?**
- 3. Once in the host country, what are the conditions to access language courses and civic courses (i.e. type of residence permit, duration of stay, price conditions, other conditions)?**
- 4. What is the targeted level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)?**

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- 5. What is the content of the courses (everyday vocabulary, specific topics, etc.)?
- 6. What is the duration of the course?
- 7. What are the different types of courses provided (for example, the pace of learning)?
- 8. Does your Member State issue a certificate of language proficiency on completion of the course? YES/NO
- 9. Is there any language course for refugees online? YES/NO. Can you please describe (e-learning platforms, mobile apps, ...)

We would very much appreciate your responses by **2 May 2024**.

## 2. RESPONSES

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		<b>Wider Dissemination</b> <sup>2</sup>	
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<sup>2</sup> A default "Yes" is given for your response to be circulated further (e.g. to other EMN NCPs and their national network members). A "No" should be added here if you do not wish your response to be disseminated beyond other EMN NCPs. In case of "No" and

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	<b>EMN NCP Belgium</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. No.</p> <p>2. N/A.</p> <p>3.</p> <p><b>Background information:</b> In Belgium, (civic) integration is the responsibility of language-based Communities. The Communities in Belgium (Flemish Community, French Community and German-speaking Community) are responsible for person- and language-related matters (e.g. education, culture, health care, assistance). However, two Communities operate on the territory of the Brussels-Capital Region: the French Community and the Flemish Community. This called for specific Brussels 'community institutions'. To exercise community responsibilities at the Brussels-Capital Region, the following Community Commissions have been created:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the French Community Commission (COCOF) is the competent authority for political initiatives relating to French Community matters;</li> <li>• the Flemish Community Commission (VGC) is the competent authority for political initiatives relating to Flemish Community matters;</li> <li>• the Common Community Commission (COCOM) is the competent authority for community matters not exclusively relating to one of the two communities.</li> </ul> <p>In general, the <b>civic integration programmes</b> in the different Communities in Belgium consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social orientation: you will learn about life, housing and work in Belgium.</li> </ul>
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wider dissemination beyond other EMN NCPs, then for the Compilation for Wider Dissemination the response should be removed and the following statement should be added in the relevant response box: "This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further."

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Learning the language</b> (Dutch/French/German)</li> <li>• Pathway to employment in collaboration with the competent Public Employment Service (VDAB / Actiris / FOREM / ADG).</li> </ul> <p>For more information on the social orientation course see the Belgian answers on the 'AHQ 2023.54 Implementation of measures for civic orientation courses/trainings as an important tool for the integration of third-country nationals'.</p> <p><b>Conditions to access language courses within the civic integration programmes are:</b></p> <p><b>Flemish Community:</b> Civic integration, including Dutch language classes, is meant for foreigners who are 18 years old or older and who move to Flanders or Brussels to live there. Belgians born abroad and who have at least one parent born outside of Belgium are part of the civic integration target group. Everybody who is part of the civic integration target group is entitled to a civic integration path.</p> <p>Some newcomers are <b>obligated to follow the civic integration trajectory</b>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• foreigners who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o are 18 years old or older</li> <li>o are registered in the national population register</li> <li>o live in a municipality situated in the Flemish Region</li> <li>o have a residence permit valid for more than 3 months for the first time.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Belgians who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o are 18 years old or older</li> <li>o were not born in Belgium</li> <li>o have at least one parent who was not born in Belgium</li> <li>o are registered in the national population register for the first time for no longer than 12 consecutive months.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Non-Dutch speaking underage newcomers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o who will be 18 years old at the moment when they will not have been registered in the national</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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		<p>population register for the first time for 12 consecutive months with a residence permit of more than 3 months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• newcomers who are ministers of religion in a local church or religious community recognised by the Flemish authorities.</li> </ul> <p>For these categories of newcomers, the civic integration obligation remains valid as long as they do not fulfil the civic integration programme.</p> <p>Some people belong to the groups listed above but are still <b>exempted from the obligation</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• over 65 years of age (except ministers of recognised worship services)</li> <li>• nationals of the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland (or the UK until 31-12-2020) and their family members according to a strict definition</li> <li>• Belgians and their family members who have made use of the free movement of persons in the European Union (or the United Kingdom until 31-12-2020)</li> <li>• persons from outside the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland (and the UK until 31-12-2020) who are 'long-term residents' in an EU Member State (except Denmark, Ireland, or the UK) and who have already met integration requirements there. They are exempt from the social orientation course. They only have to take a Dutch language course</li> <li>• persons with temporary protection status (people fleeing Ukraine with temporary protection status are entitled to an integration programme, but are not obliged to do so. they can take a tailor-made civic integration course for beneficiaries of temporary protection)</li> <li>• labour or study migrants (and their family members) (except ministers of recognised religions)</li> <li>• people with a certificate or diploma from education in Belgium or the Netherlands (except ministers of worship) or from a full year of reception education</li> <li>• seriously ill or disabled people for whom following an integration route is definitively impossible</li> <li>• people who have already obtained the integration certificate</li> </ul> <p>Note: For underage non-Dutch-speaking newcomers (children and young people who are entitled to education for non-Dutch-speaking newcomers (in Dutch)), civic integration is accomplished through education and not through a civic integration path.</p>
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		<p>Since March 2022, <b>applicants for international protection</b> can no longer take up the civic integration programme in Flanders. Before, they were entitled to participate four months after they lodged their asylum application. However, <b>they can still enrol in Dutch as a second language modules</b>. To enrol in a language class in Flanders, applicants must make an appointment with the Agencies for Integration and Civic Integration. During an intake interview, a staff member will help them find the most suitable course. The staff members will ask questions about which languages they already know, which diplomas they have, why they would like to learn the language, whether they have a lot of time or rather limited, etc. Applicants will sometimes need to take a test to ascertain their language skills. After the interview and the test, the language centre will propose a Dutch language course.</p> <p>For an overview of the obliged and entitled target group of the civic integration programme in Flanders, take a look at 3. Integration of new arrivals in Flanders   Skills and Labour Market Integration of Immigrants and their Children in Flanders   OECD iLibrary (<a href="https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/0d68a8d5-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/0d68a8d5-en">oecd-ilibrary.org</a>) or <a href="https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/0d68a8d5-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/0d68a8d5-en">https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/0d68a8d5-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/0d68a8d5-en</a>.</p> <p><b>Concerning the price:</b> the Flemish civic integration programmes, including the language courses, are free of charge in the Brussels-Capital Region and Wallonia. By contrast, in Flanders, those who sign an integration contract from 1 September 2023 have to pay for the course and test of the social orientation module and Dutch as a second language (NT2) classes. The costs for the Dutch lessons and the the test is €180. Those who fail the NT2 test and have to retake (part of) the test will again pay per part of the test. Exemptions exist for economically vulnerable profiles.</p> <p><b>Walloon Region:</b> The target group: All foreign nationals residing in Belgium for less than three years and holding a residence permit valid for more than three months, except citizens of one of the Member States of the European Union, the European Economic Area or Switzerland and their family members. The Walloon Social Action and Health Code defines who is covered by the obligation and who is exempt (<a href="https://wallex.wallonie.be/eli/loi-decret/2011/09/29/2011027223/2011/12/31">https://wallex.wallonie.be/eli/loi-decret/2011/09/29/2011027223/2011/12/31</a>).</p>
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		<p>The civic integration programme is compulsory for foreign-nationality newcomers residing in French-speaking Wallonia aged between 18 and 65, who have been legal residents for less than 3 years and who hold a residence permit exceeding 3 months.</p> <p>There are people who are dispensed from this obligation.</p> <p>People who can have a waiver from the obligation are those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have already obtained the attendance certificate, or any other similar certificate issued by another community or region of the country;</li> <li>• present a medical certificate attesting to the impossibility of following the integration program due to a severe illness or disability;</li> <li>• have obtained a certificate or diploma in Belgian education;</li> <li>• are under 18 or over 65 years old;</li> <li>• work at least part-time for a continuous period of more than three months;</li> <li>• are regular students;</li> <li>• are exchange students;</li> <li>• receive a scholarship for obtaining a doctorate;</li> <li>• are teachers collaborating within a higher education institution recognised in the French Community (Wallonia-Brussels Federation);</li> <li>• are Turkish nationals or nationals of a state that has concluded association agreements with the European Union containing a standstill clause identical to those governing relations between the European Union and Turkey;</li> <li>• people who benefit from temporary protection.</li> </ul> <p>Persons who are exempt and do not have to follow the civic orientation path are those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have been legally staying in Belgium for more than 3 years;</li> <li>• do not have a residence permit;</li> <li>• have a residence permit for less than 3 months;</li> <li>• are citizens of the European Union, the European Economic Area, Switzerland;</li> <li>• are family members of a citizen of the European Union, the European Economic Area, Switzerland.</li> </ul>
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**Brussels-Capital Region:**

The obligation applies to individuals registered in the register of foreigners of a Brussels municipality, with a residence permit of a minimum 3-month validity period (on 1 June 2022, the integration obligation for newcomers in Brussels came into force, through an ordinance of the Common Community Commission):

- a foreign national with non-EU+ nationality (third-country national);
- at least 18 years old and less than 65 years old when the obligation arises;
- been legally residing in Belgium for less than three years;
- registered for the first time in the register of foreigners ( $\neq$  waiting register) of a Brussels municipality,
- have a residence permit that is valid for more than three months. This includes all electronic cards for foreign nationals and certificates of immatriculation of more than three months.

Exempt from the obligation based on their residence status are:

- nationals of an EU+ member state;
- the following family members of an EU+ national: the spouse and equivalent partner, (grand)children, and (grand)parents, and those of their spouse;
- the same family members of a Belgian who has exercised their right to free movement;
- labour and study migrants;
- long-term third-country residents with a second residence in Belgium based on other means of subsistence who obtained their status in Germany, Estonia, France, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Austria, Czech Republic, Portugal, and Romania;
- foreigners with a temporary residence purpose;
- individuals with temporary protection.

The newcomer can also request an exemption for the following reasons:

- they have already obtained a civic integration certificate;
- they were exempted from civic integration in the language area where they were previously registered;

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they have obtained a diploma or certificate from primary, secondary, or higher education in an institution financed, organised, or subsidised by the Flemish Community, the French Community, or the German-speaking Community;</li> <li>• due to illness or disability, it is permanently impossible to follow an integration trajectory.</li> </ul> <p>Since 1 January 2024 the Common Community Commission also regulates the civic integration trajectory for people that are not obliged to follow the civic integration programme but want to participate voluntarily. All adult foreign citizens who are legally staying in Belgium, registered in the foreigner register or population register from a municipality of the Brussels-Capital Region with a right to stay of more than 3 months have the right to do so.</p> <p><b>German-speaking Community:</b>  Target group: in general, the civic integration course, including German as a foreign language course, is aimed at all persons with a migrant background residing in the German-speaking community. Applicants for international protection, 4 months after they have submitted their application, are included in this target group.  Persons obliged to take part in the integration course are those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• register in a municipality of the German-speaking Community after 1 January 2018 and</li> <li>• have received a residence permit for at least 3 months and</li> <li>• have reached the age of majority</li> </ul> <p>Exceptions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Persons who are citizens of an EU country, a country of the European Economic Area or Switzerland Economic Area or Switzerland and their family members;</li> <li>• Enrolled students and pupils;</li> <li>• Persons with a Belgian school-leaving certificate;</li> <li>• Persons of retirement age (<math>\geq 65</math> years);</li> <li>• Persons with work permit B;</li> <li>• Persons who are permanently unable to follow the course due to illness or disability (with a</li> </ul>
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		<p>certificate);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diplomats, professional athletes or staff of international organisations;</li> <li>• Persons who have been living in Belgium for more than 3 years;</li> <li>• Persons who have already obtained a civic integration or any other similar certificate issued by another community or region of the country</li> </ul> <p>4.</p> <p>During the civic integration programme, participants have to reach <b>level A2</b> of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). There is an exception for illiterates.</p> <p>For <b>Flanders</b>: Some persons people continue after completing their civic integration programme: for instance, they take follow-up courses in Dutch in preparation for higher studies or they participate in vocational training or training to become self-employed. Since 1 March 2022, <b>persons integrating in Flanders are also required to pass the level B1 oral for Dutch</b> within 24 months of obtaining an integration certificate. This can be considered a follow-up pathway.</p> <p>5.</p> <p><b>The content depends on the level of the participants.</b></p> <p>For <b>Flanders</b>, Dutch language courses are given at various organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Centres for Adult Basic Education (CBE): for adults who learn more slowly, and for non-native speakers who are illiterate or cannot read or write the Latin alphabet properly.</li> <li>• The Centres for Adult Education (CVO): a diverse offer in terms of intensity and language level.</li> <li>• The university language centres: intensive courses, trainees who want to continue studying. A certain experience in learning (Western European) languages is expected from starters.</li> <li>• The Public Employment Service, VDAB: specific advanced Dutch courses for jobseekers and employees, preferably as a supplement to vocational training or work experience.</li> </ul>
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- Syntra: specific language skills courses for (candidate) entrepreneurs and their employees, preferably as an addition to a training course.

6.

The **duration of the language course** that must be completed to reach level A2 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) **varies greatly**. The student's language skills, learning profile and the intensity of the course also determine the duration (see also question 7).

**For learning Dutch:**

During a coordinated intake, the counsellor assesses the newcomer's educational attainment, acquired language skills, learning aspirations and personal situation. Depending on the profile of the participant, a cognitive skills test, a reading and writing test and an entry test are taken. The cognitive skills test (COVAAR) helps to assess language learning ability. If there are doubts about the participant's literacy, the counsellor takes a reading and writing test. Finally, acquired Dutch language competencies are tested via an entry test (NIVO). The initial assessment results in formal advice and subsequent referral to a language training provider. The advice is shaped by the following parameters (ranked by weight in the decision process): literacy, level of education, cognitive skills test score, knowledge of other languages, and personal factors such as motivation. The counsellors' advice is binding for the course entry level and the learning speed, but the participant is free to register with another provider than the one suggested (see also figure attached).

The **Centres for Adult Education** and **Centres for Adult Basic Education** provide formal Dutch as a second language training. These language providers have broadly similar learning objectives and funding structures but **differ in the pace and format of instruction**. Integration Agencies generally refer "slow language learners" to the Centres for Adult Basic Education, where a standard A2-level course with oral and written skills consists of 440 teaching hours. Illiterate or low-literate participants can follow language training at the Centres for Adult Basic Education in two versions: 1 140 hours to acquire oral skills up to level A2 and learn to read and write at level A1, or 600 hours to acquire oral skills up to level A2 in an adapted version and limited self-reliance for written skills. "Fast language

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		<p>learners”, on the other hand, are generally sent to the Centres for Adult Education, where they can follow a standard trajectory of 240 hours, an extended trajectory of 360 hours, or a shortened trajectory of 160 hours to achieve level A2. For participants who are literate in a script other than Latin, the Centres for Adult Basic Education and the Centres for Adult Education additionally offer a Latin script module of 180 hours and 40 hours, respectively, after which participants join regular Dutch language training. Finally, <b>University Language Centres</b> offer higher-speed courses of 160 hours specifically designed for new arrivals with higher educational aspirations who meet university admission requirements.</p> <p>7. The courses depend on the participants’ literacy, language skills, highest qualification achieved, combination with work/study and so on. For Flanders: For <b>Dutch learning (see also the diagram annexed for the presentation of the pathways linked to a particular centre).</b> After assessment, future participants in Dutch language lessons are advised on the Dutch language training course and the school best suited to them. They also receive practical details on the price, location and start date of the courses. There are any number of schools and organisations where one can learn Dutch. Each school or organisation has its own approach and its own terms of enrolment. <b>a) Reception Education for non-Dutch-speaking Newcomers (<i>Onthaalonderwijs voor anderstalige kinderen (OKAN)</i>)</b> You are under 18, new to Flanders and do not speak any Dutch. What?  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You learn Dutch at a Flemish primary school or in secondary education.</li> <li>• You get suitable guidance to further your education.</li> </ul> </p>
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		<p><b>b) Centres for Adult Basic Education (CBE)</b>          You are 18 or over, do not have good reading or writing skills in Latin characters and/or struggle with learning.          What?  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You learn Dutch in a small group and at your own pace.</li> <li>• You attend day or evening classes.</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>c) Centres for Adult Education (CVO)</b>          You are 15 years old and you have already attended two years of secondary education, or you are 16 or over. You start with a training course at beginner's level. If you already speak and write Dutch, the training course starts at a higher level.          What?  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You learn Dutch in a group. You attend a training course suited to your pace of learning.</li> <li>• You attend day or evening classes.</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>d) Universitair Talencentrum (UTC) (University Language Centre)</b>          You are 18 or over, hold at least a secondary education qualification and have sufficient experience learning a Western European language.          What?  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You learn Dutch in a group at a high pace.</li> <li>• Part of the training courses involves self-tuition.</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>e) The Public Employment Service, VDAB and Syntra</b>          These organisations lay on more specific occupational training courses combined with Dutch language courses. Or they support a training course you are taking elsewhere.</p> <p>8.          Yes.          For example for learning Dutch:</p>
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		<p>Passing the Dutch as a second language (NT2) test language level A2 and A1 (alpha) is a prerequisite for obtaining a certificate of NT2 training direction grade 1 from school year 2023-2024. The NT2 test comprises four components: reading, listening, writing and speaking. For each component, the NT2 test consists of a <b>trajectory evaluation and a standardised test</b>. The trajectory evaluation is done by the centre where you take the course. The trajectory evaluation score is based on the entire NT2 course. Your centre decides autonomously how this evaluation is done. The pathway evaluation counts for 40% of the total score of the NT2 test.</p> <p>You take the standardised test digitally at your centre. This test is designed for non-native speakers in adult education and ensures that every student has the same chance of achieving language level A2 and A1(alpha), regardless of where you take lessons. The standardised test counts for 60% of the total score of the NT2 test. To pass the NT2 test, you must pass each component (reading, writing, speaking and listening) with a total score of 50% per component. You have to retake each section for which you do not achieve a total score of 50%. If you do not pass a section of the NT2 test, you can only retake the test after retaking (part of) the NT2 course Level 1.</p> <p>Note that a basic knowledge of Dutch is also a prerequisite for accessing a number of organisations/services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language proficiency requirement level A2 is a prerequisite to obtain a civic integration certificate</li> <li>• Language proficiency requirement level A2 is a prerequisite for renting social housing in Flanders</li> <li>• Basic knowledge of Dutch or language readiness is a prerequisite for receiving support from the Public Centres for Social Welfare.</li> </ul> <p>9. Yes For example:</p>
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		<p><b>Brulingua</b> is an initiative of Actiris, the Public Employment Service of the <b>Brussels-Capital Region</b>. It offers free online language training and personalised coaching to all Brussels residents aged 16 and over. Brulingua offers the possibility to learn 24 learning languages, including English, Dutch, French and German, in an autonomous, dynamic and interactive way. Brulingua promotes employability and professional mobility, improves the linguistic skills of the inhabitants of Brussels, boosts the economic and touristic attractiveness of the Brussels-Capital Region and strengthens its internationalization, <a href="https://brulingua.be/en/brulingua-project/">https://brulingua.be/en/brulingua-project/</a>.</p> <p><b>Nedbox:</b> the <b>FlemishNedBox website</b> is a free website accessible to everyone. Foreign speakers can practise Dutch while using television clips and newspaper articles on various topics, with accompanying exercises in different levels of difficulty. Every week, new items are added to the platform. The range of exercises is broader than the classic vocabulary and grammar exercises. For example, you can learn to make a phone call, fill in an online form, or read a birth announcement card. Research shows that these kinds of real-life practice moments, which respond to what people really want to be able to do with a language, are crucial in the learning process. The website has a simple interface that makes it easy to find your way around. Another advantage of the NedBox is that the users themselves can choose topics and exercises based on their interests and needs. The users also decide where to call in support in the form of subtitles, hints or highlighted word meanings. Moreover, they always get immediate feedback on their answers, and are encouraged when they have completed a certain number of exercises. Practising on <a href="http://www.NedBox.be">www.NedBox.be</a> is free and does not require registration. Users can also subscribe to a newsletter and follow the updates on Facebook.</p> <p>In April 2020, NedBox was expanded with <b>NedBox Alfa</b>, <a href="https://www.nedbox.be/alfa">https://www.nedbox.be/alfa</a>, a new level specifically tailored to non-native speakers learning to read and write in Dutch. For example, you will find exercises on technical reading and writing, and you can have the instructions read to you. NedBox Alfa contains exercises to accompany the videos of 'Nieuw Leven', a soap for low-literate non-Dutch speakers, and is regularly updated.</p> <p>In September 2023, a new tool was added: the <b>NedBox app</b>. The NedBox app is a free app for foreign-speaking (young) adults who want to practise Dutch for everyday life. The start screen is a map of a</p>
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fictitious city, with recognisable places such as a shop, a station, a school, ... If you click on a building, you can choose from different exercises related to that place. At the hospital, for instance, you can practise calling the emergency services or reporting to the reception desk. At the town hall, for example, you can learn to understand information from the municipality or make an online appointment. Via listening, reading and speaking assignments, you practice the Dutch language you need in all kinds of real-life situations. You practice at your own pace, repeat as much as you like and learn from the feedback on your answers. The exercises are interactive, especially the speaking exercises. These use innovative speech technology with a chatbot. The app also includes motivating game elements such as a game to practise vocabulary and challenges that allow you to earn extra points and badges. The app is available on iOS: [https://bit.ly/nedbox\\_appstore](https://bit.ly/nedbox_appstore) and Android: [https://bit.ly/nedbox\\_googleplay](https://bit.ly/nedbox_googleplay).

**Wallangues** is a **Walloon** initiative that enables all residents, from the age of 15, to learn Dutch, English, French and German online. Wallangues is free of charge and comes in two forms: an online platform (<https://www.wallangues.be/>) and a mobile application that can be downloaded for IOS and Android (App iOS : <https://apps.apple.com/app/id1462056332> / and App Android <https://play.google.com/apps/testing/com.altissia.wallangues>). It allows residents of Wallonia to learn up to four languages or improve their knowledge of them, wherever and whenever they want, from any computer connected to the Internet or on their smartphone. Wallangues is suitable for all levels: from complete beginners to advanced learners. Wallangues offers a dynamic and interactive teaching approach, combining the key elements of language learning and enabling effective progress in all the language skills essential for communication: listening and reading comprehension, written and oral expression. Users of the platform benefit from a personalised pathway for effective, targeted daily progress; "Speaky", a social network for language exchange and learning and "Ortalia", a tool that allows users to revise or perfect their command of French spelling with the help of dictations. The courses offered are multimedia, interactive and based on authentic situations from everyday and professional life. Wallangues also offers videoconferencing courses. Virtual classes are themed 30-minute online lessons during which learners can interact in small groups with a native coach. These classes are available for all levels: beginner - intermediate - advanced. Conversation tables and

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			language cafés are also available in their virtual version on the Wallangues app. In addition, the Wallangues app encourages microlearning, an approach that offers shorter lessons and is, therefore, more motivating for the user. Face-to-face events are also organised.
	<b>EMN NCP Bulgaria</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. There is no requirement for persons residing in Bulgaria with a status of seeking or receiving protection, including for persons from Ukraine who were granted temporary protection, to speak Bulgarian.</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. The Ministry of Education and Science is only responsible for the provision of additional training in Bulgarian language for children and students of compulsory preschool and school age, carried out in the educational institutions. Additional training in Bulgarian language is provided in kindergartens or schools after enrolling the children and students seeking or receiving protection. According to the needs of each child, additional training is carried out individually or in a group and has the following forms and duration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 60 pedagogical situations – for children in preparatory groups;</li> <li>- 90 study hours – for students studying in the elementary stage;</li> <li>- 120 study hours – for students studying in junior high school;</li> <li>- 180 hours – for students studying in the first high school stage.</li> </ul> <p>Additional training in Bulgarian language for children and students is implemented outside the school curriculum within 12 months, without being graded. After completing the additional training in Bulgarian, the teacher describes the results achieved by the child/student, and provides the results to the parent (guardian, representative), to the director of the educational institution, to the teachers teaching the</p>


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		<p>child in the kindergarten, or to the teachers teaching the student in the subjects of the school curriculum for information.</p> <p>4. -</p> <p>5. -</p> <p>6. -</p> <p>7. -</p> <p>8. -</p> <p>9. In 2022, the Ministry of Education and Science prepared, under the National Program "Textbooks, study sets and study aids", a supporting study material on Bulgarian language (levels A1 and A2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) for students seeking or receiving international protection, and migrants. It is published on the website of the Ministry of Education and Science. The access is free. The supporting study material was printed and disseminated to the schools where students with temporary protection study. In 2023, the Ministry of Education and Science prepared, under the National Program "Textbooks, study sets and study aids", a supporting study material on Bulgarian language (level A2 of the Common</p>
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			European Framework of Reference for Languages) for junior high school students seeking or receiving protection, and migrants.
	<b>EMN NCP Croatia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. For the approval of a long-term residence, one of the conditions is knowledge of the Croatian language and the Latin script. Exam do not have to pass:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. children of preschool age</li> <li>2. participants, i.e. persons who completed primary, secondary or higher education in the Republic of Croatia</li> <li>3. persons older than 65 years if they are not employed.</li> </ol> <p>2. Required level is B1- The exam is taken before the examination committee of the institution that conducts the exam. The exam consists of five parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. understanding of the listened text</li> <li>2. comprehension of the read text</li> <li>3. knowledge of language structures</li> <li>4. written communication</li> <li>5. oral communication.</li> </ol> <p>3. In Croatia, lessons in the Croatian language, history and culture are organized by state authorities for the asylees and foreigners under subsidiary protection. According to International and Temporary Protection Act asylees and foreigners under subsidiary protection are obliged attend a course in Croatian language, history and culture.</p>

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		<p>Croatian employment service is preparing Croatian language courses for adults as part of measures for unemployed foreigners registered at the Croatian employment service. The Ministry of Education and Science is responsible for the provision of additional training in Croatian language for foreign children in primary and secondary school.</p> <p>4. Targeted level is A1.0 at least.</p> <p>5. There are eight units in total, the first of which is mandatory, and the others can be chosen according to the needs of the participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Croatian in everyday life</li> <li>II. Food and drink</li> <li>III. Numbers and time</li> <li>IV. Traits and health</li> <li>V. Dressing and shopping</li> <li>VI. Housing and movement</li> <li>VII. Work and free time</li> <li>VIII. Nature and environment</li> </ul> <p>6. The expected duration of the program is from four months to nine months, depending on the number of hours per week, but also on other circumstances. The minimum total number of hours is 280, which means at least 30 hours per month for the nine-month program. It is recommended that classes be held at least three times a week for at least two school hours. It would be a week</p>
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			<p>6 to 7 hours of Croatian as a foreign language.</p> <p>7. N/A</p> <p>8. Yes</p> <p>9. No</p>
	EMN NCP Cyprus	Yes	<p>1. It is not a prerequisite to meet language requirements to settle in Cyprus</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. All children residing in Cyprus have the obligation to register in a school within three months from their arrival, regardless their residency status. All non-Greek speaking students attending public schools of all levels are entitled to daily Greek language lessons, in addition and parallel to their attendance of the mainstream school programme. Their language competency is being evaluated upon their enrolment and the attendance of these lessons is obligatory and free. Adults, as well as children, have the opportunity to attend optional afternoon Greek lessons offered through the “State Institutes of Further Education” (Κρατικά Ινστιτούτα Επιμόρφωσης), on a very low</p>


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		<p>tuition fee. Lessons offered there are organized in levels, covering up to level C.1 within a period of six (6) years.</p> <p>4. Lessons of Greek as a second language in primary education cover A.1 and A.2 and levels A.1, A.2 and B.1 in secondary education.</p> <p>5. Lessons in public schools are based on the “School Curriculum of Greek as Second Language” which was developed by the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth in 2020. The Curriculum provides the theoretical framework of lessons through methodology , as well as content (vocabulary, grammar, academic skills etc.), organized in thematic units, specifically and adequately developed for each level of education (pre-primary, primary and secondary). The curriculum follows the guidelines set by CEFER, covering up to level B.1. Adequate teaching material (including books, flashcards, presentations, teacher guides) based on the Curriculum has been developing by the Ministry for all levels of education.</p> <p>6. Greek language lessons for non-Greek speaking students have a duration of two (2) years.</p> <p>7. In public schools courses are divided into two (2) years/levels. In optional lessons in the State Institutes for Further Learning offer lessons in six (6) different levels.</p> <p>8.</p>
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		No
		9. There is no language course for refugees offered online via the respective public authority. However, NGOs are providing such courses for adult refugees and asylum seekers as part of vocational education.
	<b>EMN NCP Czech Republic</b>	<b>Yes</b> 1. NO - It is possible to stay in the country on a long-term stay without any requirements on the language level. However, if a foreigner wants to apply for permanent residence or citizenship, he must pass a language test (more question 4). 2. See question 4. 3. Language and civic courses usually have no entry requirements and are widely offered free of charge by a network of 18 Centres for Support of Integration of Foreigners ( <a href="https://www.integracnicentra.cz/?lang=en">https://www.integracnicentra.cz/?lang=en</a> ) and other NGOs. Courses are also provided by some municipalities as part of their integration projects. 4. If immigrant wishes to change from long-term stay to permanent residence permit or to acquire citizenship, in most cases, apart from certain exceptions, he or she must take a language exams. Third-country national who wants to apply for permanent residence permit must provide a certificate of A2

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		<p>level of Czech language. Person applying for Czech citizenship must provide a certificate of B1 level of Czech language. It is assed by certified exams - <a href="https://cestina-pro-cizince.cz/?hl=en_US">https://cestina-pro-cizince.cz/?hl=en_US</a>.</p> <p>5. Language courses are mostly on the topics roughly covered by the A2 and B1 certification. However, specialised language courses provided by the employment services for specific jobs - for example in the health sector - are also supported.</p> <p>6. Preparation in a designated language course is not required for the exams. The duration of the course is therefore rather dependent on the level of the applicant. However, it is recommended to take a 50-hour preparatory course before taking the A2 exam.</p> <p>7. Courses are roughly divided into low-threshold (no regular attendance is required and each class tries to be a closed unit), regular (usually a minimum of 70 percent attendance is required for successful completion), and exam preparatory (50 hours).</p> <p>8. NO, just completion of required exams.</p> <p>9. Yes. Recently, the Czech Republic introduced online training courses for all foreigners. <a href="https://www.czechonline.org/">https://www.czechonline.org/</a></p>
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<p><b>EMN NCP Estonia</b></p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>1. No, there are no language requirements while settling into Estonia. Language requirements are applicable if person applies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. extension of a temporary residence permit for employment (person who is applying for a temporary residence permit for employment and who has prior resided in Estonia for at least five years on the basis of the temporary residence permit for employment is required to have the Estonian language proficiency at least at the language proficiency level A2).</li> <li>2. a permanent residence permit (person who is applying for a residence permit for long-term residents is required to have the Estonian language proficiency at least at the elementary level – language proficiency level B1 or a corresponding level).</li> <li>3. citizenship (proficiency level B-1).</li> </ol> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>4. “Settle in Estonia” offers language trainings for beginners on level A1 and A2. It is compulsory for beneficiaries of international protection to complete Estonian language courses at level A1, A2, and B1. All language courses are free of charge.</p> <p>5. Language courses are designed to develop all four language skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking. Courses match the descriptions of the levels on the scale of the European language-learning framework document and develop the participants’ skills in expressing themselves both verbally and in writing. In addition to general language (for everyday communication and common work-related topics),</p>
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			<p>the participants are taught the specific vocabulary they will need in their day-to-day lives (relevant to their profession or field, such as customer service).</p> <p>6. A1 level course typically lasts for 3 months (100 academic hours), while A2 level course lasts approximately 5 months (150 academic hours) and B1 level course lasts approximately 7 months (250 academic hours).</p> <p>7. Normally lessons are held 2-4 times per week, each lasting 2-4 academic hours.</p> <p>8. Yes, at the end of the course person have to take a test to gauge his/her language level. If person success the test, a certificate with confirmation about completing the course will be issued to him.</p> <p>9. Yes, beneficiaries of international protection can take Estonian language courses on A1, A2, and B1 level online.</p>
+	EMN NCP Finland	Yes	<p>1. NO.</p> <p>2. N/A.</p>

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3.

As regards asylum seekers: Language studies are mandatory for all residents of reception centres and all applicants for international protection who receive the reception allowance. Applicants in private accommodation do not have an obligation to study the language. Applicants for international protection complete a course on Finnish society as part of the work and study activities organised at reception centres. Course on Finnish society is mandatory for all residents of reception centres and all applicants for international protection who receive reception allowance. Applicants in private accommodation do not have an obligation to take part in the course lectures. Instead they are given written self-study materials covering the course topics.

As regards other TCNs: Integration training is education provided for immigrants. Integration training is intended for immigrants over the compulsory education age that have lived in Finland for less than 3 years. Majority of the participants in integration training are unemployed job seekers (among them people with different kinds of resident permits and also EU residents), and majority of these courses are organised as labour market training. Integration training is free of charge for the participants. The training comprises the following areas: language and communication competence, citizenship and working life competence, guidance supporting the student, and support for studying and learning. The scope and content of integration training vary according to individual needs. The information obtained during the initial assessment on the immigrants' employment and study skills, other integration capabilities and the needs for language studies and other measures and services promoting integration will be utilised when an authority prepares an integration plan together with the immigrant and when the authority determines the appropriate content of integration training.

From 2025 on a new multilingual civic orientation course will be provided to immigrants who have an individual integration plan. The content and target group of civic orientation is defined in the Integration Act.

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4.

As regards asylum seekers after completing all the language courses accordingly to the curriculum, the student should achieve level A2.1 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. B1.1 in the integration training (TCNs). Language courses and other education targeted to immigrants have different target levels.

5.

Asylum seekers: Usually asylum seekers start their Finnish language studies at the reception center. This is why the focus of language courses is on basic vocabulary and phrases and practicing everyday situations. Some asylum seekers need to learn first how to read and write. There are also more advanced classes for those asylum seekers who have been in the reception system for a longer period of time. There is a guiding curriculum for language studies in the reception system (available only in Finnish). It defines the objectives and contents of the language courses. After completing all the language courses accordingly to the curriculum, the student should achieve level A2.1 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Other TCNs:

Integration training consists of teaching Finnish or Swedish as well as other teaching that promotes access to working life and further education as well as social, cultural and life management skills. Integration training may include studies that improve the knowledge of the Latin alphabet for students who have sufficient learning capabilities and educational background. Integration training also includes the identification of prior learning and the recognition of a qualification as well as vocational planning and career guidance. Integration training is mainly organised as labour market training in accordance with the Act on public Employment and Business Service, but it can also be organised as self-motivated studies.

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		<p>For adult immigrants who, due to their poor basic education, need primary and lower secondary education in particular, basic education is organised. Basic education for adults consist of three phases: the literacy phase, introductory phase and final phase. If a person completes the final phase, the studies are equivalent to the primary and secondary school studies in Finland.</p> <p>Besides basic education for adults, literacy training is also organized in liberal adult education institutions. They also offer a wide range of other courses and trainings for immigrants, e.g. Finnish and Swedish language courses, including for immigrants outside the labour force.</p> <p>6. Asylum seekers take part in the language studies as long as they are in the reception system. They can attend different courses and also study outside the reception center if they advance to a level where reception center courses are not challenging enough.</p> <p>Other TCNs: The maximum scope of integration training (which includes language courses) for immigrants is 80 credits. One credit corresponds to an average of approximately 27 hours of work by the student and includes a sufficient amount of teaching to meet the student's individual needs. The amount of work required for completing one credit may vary depending on the student's linguistic and educational capabilities. Usually the integration training lasts for one year. The scope and duration of the training may vary according to the student's personal study plan. The training may last longer if the student repeats a part of the training or completes studies that improve their knowledge of the Latin alphabet. The student may also participate in integration training for a shorter period of time according to their personal goals and learning needs and flexibly transition to other training or to working life. The duration of basic education for adults varies according to which phases of the education a student takes part in.</p>
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		<p>7.</p> <p>As regards asylum seekers, there are different types of courses in different reception centers. In many transit centers there is a non-stop course, because people stay in transit centers only for a short period of time. In reception centers where asylum seekers wait for their decision, there are more language courses available and also the possibility to study outside the reception center. The reception centers may independently organise courses as they see fit. Some reception centers buy courses from a service provider (for example educational institution, college, community college) while other reception centers have their own teacher as a member of staff. Usually there are two to four weekly study hours per asylum seeker.</p> <p>Other TCNs: The initial level assessment examines the student's reading and writing skills, oral and written skills in Finnish, previous study and work experience, life situation and personal employment and training wishes. Students can be guided to a suitable study path in integration training, taking into account factors such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the basic path is intended for students with functional literacy and basic study skills for foreign language studies.</li> <li>• the slow progress path for those with deficiencies in study skills or other factors affecting learning.</li> <li>• the fast-moving path is intended for those accustomed to language learning, students with excellent study skills and capabilities for independent studying.</li> </ul> <p>Besides these 3 paths, especially in bigger cities, more specific integration training groups are organised (own groups e.g. for highly educated people with certain professional background, people who need more support in learning etc.). Also online courses can serve for more detailed needs.</p> <p>8.</p> <p>Asylum seekers: NO. As regards asylum seekers' language proficiency there is no official certificate. Reception center can print a CV that lists the courses attended.</p>
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			<p>Other TCNs YES: At the end of integration training, students are assessed in relation to the objectives set for the entire training. A certificate is awarded for integration training at the end of the training. The language proficiency achieved by the student in the areas of language proficiency described in the National core curriculum (oral and written reception and oral and written production) are marked in the certificate according to the Common European Framework for Languages. The student's citizenship and working life competence and the on-the-job learning period are assessed and marked as "completed/not completed".</p> <p>9. As regards asylum seekers specifically NO. As regards TCNs in general (including refugees) YES: It is possible to provide integration training flexibly in terms of time and method of implementation: daytime and evening education as well as distance and multiform teaching. There are several language schools, that provide on-line integration training courses.</p>
■	EMN NCP France	Yes	<p>1. No. There is no language requirement for issuing a first residence permit to a third-country national. Admission to stay for new arrivals is therefore not conditional on a specific level of proficiency in the French language.</p> <p>2. n/a</p> <p>3.</p>

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		<p>Civic and language training (depending on the level of French language) are prescribed for all newly-arrived foreign nationals as part of the Republican Integration Contract (<i>Contrat d'intégration républicaine</i>, CIR), which also includes career guidance and support designed to facilitate integration into the labour market, as well as support tailored to the needs to facilitate reception conditions and integration.</p> <p>Foreign nationals are third-country nationals newly arrived who have been legally admitted to France for family immigration, professional immigration or international protection purposes and who wish to settle there on a long-term basis.</p> <p>The following categories are exempt from the requirement to sign a CIR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- foreign nationals not intending to stay in France permanently: holders of "seasonal worker", "ICT seconded worker", "talent passport", "temporary worker", "trainee", "visitor" and "student" residence permits;</li> <li>- foreign nationals with sufficient guarantees of integration: higher education studies in France lasting at least one academic year, schooling in a French secondary school for at least three academic years, foreign nationals aged between 16 and 18 who are eligible for a residence permit and covered by article L. 426-1.</li> </ul> <p>Newly arrived foreign nationals sign a Republican Integration Contract (CIR) under which they undertake to follow the training courses (civic and, where applicable, linguistic) prescribed for them by the State. Civic training and language courses, where applicable, are compulsory for all newcomers who have signed the CIR. The State covers the full cost of these courses as part of the CIR. The courses are therefore provided free of charge to newcomers.</p> <p>Outside the CIR framework, other training courses co-financed by the government (face-to-face or online) may be offered to newcomers by associations.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>The initial language training provided under the CIR aims to acquire a level of French at least equivalent to level A1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).</p>
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		<p>However, the CIR also provides for the possibility of taking optional additional language training aimed at acquiring level A2 of the CEFR and additional language training aimed at acquiring level B1 of the CEFR.</p> <p>5. The language training provided as part of the CIR focuses on interactivity, the use of new technologies and field visits. Three main themes are covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practical life: housing, family, education, culture, health and travel;</li> <li>• Public life: Republican symbols, the French Republic, democracy, institutions, the values of the Republic, and the rights and duties these values entail;</li> <li>• Working life: the world of work, employees' rights and duties, developing a career plan, codes of conduct and attitudes.</li> </ul> <p>Classes include role-playing, group work and discussion. They are based on a variety of materials that are close to people's everyday environment: authentic documents, audio/video extracts, discovery and use of IT/multimedia tools.</p> <p>6. The CIR provides 4 language training courses depending on the language level of the signatory. The duration of these courses varies between 100 hours, 200 hours and 400 hours, offered in intensive, semi-intensive or extensive formats. A 600-hour course has also been designed for non-readers and non-writers with little or no schooling in their country of origin. The maximum duration of 600 hours can be increased by a maximum of 60 hours if necessary. A further 100 hours of optional language training aimed at achieving CEFR level A2 and a further 100 hours of optional language training aimed at achieving CEFR level B1 are also available.</p>
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		<p>Each foreign national signing the Republican Integration Contract may only take one training course per level.</p> <p>The Republican Integration Contract is concluded for a period of one year. If A1 level is reached before the end of the prescribed course, the training will be terminated early. Where the prescribed language training lasts longer than one year, the Prefect may extend the duration of the contract by up to a further year.</p> <p>The contract may be terminated by the Prefect on a proposal from the French Office for Integration and Immigration (<i>Office français de l'Intégration et de l'immigration</i>, OFII) if the Prefect finds that the foreign national, without legitimate reason, does not take part or no longer takes part in a prescribed training course or does not comply with the commitments made under the Republican Integration Contract.</p> <p>7.</p> <p>As part of the CIR, foreign nationals take a written and oral positioning test to measure their French language skills at the OFII reception centre. Depending on the results, and therefore on the needs identified, four language training courses may be prescribed for foreign nationals whose language level is below CEFR level A1: a course of 100 hours, 200 hours, 400 hours or 600 hours for non-readers, non-writers and those with little or no schooling in their country of origin. The maximum duration of 600 hours can be increased by a maximum of 60 hours if necessary.</p> <p>The 100 hours and 200 hours courses can be followed at an intensive (28h per week), semi-intensive (21h per week) or extensive pace, with staggered hours (evenings, Saturdays, from 6am to 12pm per week) for people who work.</p> <p>The 400 hours and 600 hours courses can be taken intensively (28h per week) or semi-intensively (21h per week).</p> <p>Foreign nationals whose level is equal to A1 or A2 CEFR in the positioning test may be offered additional training aimed at higher levels.</p>
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		<p>A further 100 hours of language training aimed at achieving CEFR level A2 and a further 100 hours of language training aimed at achieving CEFR level B1 are therefore also available.</p> <p>8. Yes. At the end of the language course attended by the foreign national, the organisation will, at his/her request, issue a certificate of attendance in his/her name, in electronic form if necessary. This certificate states that the foreign national has completed the prescribed training, attended the course and made progress. If the foreign national reaches the target language level at an intermediate assessment or at the end of the course, he/she will be offered the opportunity to register for an assessment test in order to obtain certification of his/her level of French. This registration is paid for by the State.</p> <p>9. Yes, there are several digital devices and tools that enable refugees to take French lessons online:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The mobile application "J'apprends" (on iPhone and Android), developed by the language training organisation <i>Langues Plurielles</i>, enables people to learn French independently, in addition to group lessons. It is aimed at asylum seekers and refugees of all ages, as well as people who have been living in France for a long time. It's free and suitable for complete beginners. The application is like a video game, with episodes, games, videos and photos to help you learn and revise while having fun. It takes place in a city, with everyday situations and vocabulary. Little by little, you practice understanding, interacting and expressing yourself with words and phrases in an everyday situation, using the microphone and the sound of your phone.</li> <li>• The <i>Happy FLE</i> digital application, supported by the Department of Integration and Access to Nationality (<i>Direction de l'intégration et de l'accès à la nationalité</i>, DIAN) and developed by the <i>Forum réfugiés</i> association with the participation of refugees, teaches the basics of French through everyday situations: identifying means of transport, reading a map, understanding a</li> </ul>
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			<p>medical prescription, greeting, shopping, understanding administrative documents, etc. The application contains 120 exercises and 100 words to discover divided into five themes: transport, environment, health, shopping and housing. It is aimed at level A1 of the CEFR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The virtual classroom was also tested during the Covid period by the OFII, in collaboration with the DIAN, to ensure the continuity of the language training begun as part of the CIR. The GRETA 94 training organisation has set up live classes, starting in April 2020, held at least twice a week. The topics covered are linked to the daily lives of newcomers and current events (coronavirus, health, banks, electronic communication, housing, etc.). After the class, the trainees complete exercises available in padlet format (activity walls), learning apps, the e-GRETA platform or by email.</li> <li>• The <i>Alliance française</i> de Paris Ile-de-France has developed a collection of MOOCs on Living in France, all available on the <i>France Université Numérique</i> platform, ranging from level A1 to B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.</li> </ul>
	<p>EMN NCP German y</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes.</li> <li>2. German linguistic proficiency is a prerequisite for the issuance of a residence permit. Whether and which language level is required for the requested residence permit is determined by the Residence Act (AufenthG; available in English here: <a href="https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_aufenthg/englisch_aufenthg.html#p0653">https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_aufenthg/englisch_aufenthg.html#p0653</a>). The assessment of language skills is the responsibility of the foreign Authorities.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>

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		<p>Foreigners who reside permanently in the federal territory and possess a residence permit in accordance with § 44 para. 1 AufenthG are entitled to a one-time participation in an integration course. As a rule, permanent residence shall be assumed if the foreigner receives a residence permit for at least one year or has been in possession of a stay permitted for more than 18 months, unless the residence is of a temporary nature (§ 44 para. 1 sentence 2 AufenthG).</p> <p>In addition, any foreigner with a legal and permanent residence who does not or no longer has a right for a permanent residence can be admitted for one-time participation by the BAMF. Furthermore, on request, persons may be admitted who</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. have a temporary permission to stay,</li> <li>2. have a permit pursuant to § 60a para. 2 sentence 3 AufenthG,</li> <li>3. have a permission to reside according to § 24 AufenthG (temporary protection) or § 25 para. 5 AufenthG (temporary residence permission if deportation is impossible).</li> </ol> <p>Furthermore, foreigners may be obliged to participate in an integration course if the requirements of § 44a para. 1 no. 1 to 4 AufenthG are met (AufenthG available in English here: <a href="https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_aufenthg/englisch_aufenthg.html#p0653">https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_aufenthg/englisch_aufenthg.html#p0653</a>).</p> <p>All participants take an entrance test before starting the integration course. Based on the test results, the person is then assigned to a specific course module and, if necessary, to a special integration course.</p> <p>Participants have to pay EUR 2.29 for each lesson unit of the integration course (contribution to costs).</p> <p>If the participants receive unemployment benefits, civil benefits, social assistance, asylum seeker benefits or are low earners they can apply for an exemption of contributing to the course costs. The</p>
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participants can also be exempted from contributing to the costs if they find it particularly hard to pay because of their financial or personal situation.

In addition to the integration course, the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees also promotes job-related language acquisition through so-called vocational language courses (the common German abbreviation is "BSK" for "Berufssprachkurse"). Foreigners who need further language qualification, like immigrants or refugees from third countries, citizens of the EU and Germans with a migration background may attend these vocational courses (cf. § 45a AufenthG). There are only a few requirements that have to be met (for the detailed legal regulations cf. § 4 DeuFöV):

- the foreigners should either already have completed an integration course **and/or**
- already speak German at A1, A2, B1, B2 or C1 level according to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) for languages.
- In order to attend the courses with a target language level below B2, they should have previously attended an integration course and taken but not passed the German Test for Immigrants ("Deutschtest für Zuwanderer").
- Also, they either need to be registered as a job seeker **and/or**
- as a rule receive benefits in accordance with Book II of the Social Code (SGB II) or Book III of the Social Code (unemployment benefit).
- Additionally, foreigners who either are looking for a training position or are already in a training position can participate as well as foreigners undergoing the recognition procedure for their vocational training or qualification.
- Lastly, foreigners who are currently employed but who need further German language skills may participate in the vocational language courses by the Federal Office.

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		<p>As for the costs, participation in the vocational language course is in principal free of charge. If a participant's taxable annual income is over €20,000, they pay a cost contribution of €2.32 per teaching unit (the other half of each teaching unit is state funded). For a course with 600 teaching units, that makes a total of €1,392. The cost contribution may also be paid by an employer. Additionally, if a participant successfully completes the final examination, they can apply for a refund of 50% of the cost contribution.</p> <p>4. The targeted level by law of the integration course is B1, with the exception of integration courses intended specifically for participants who are primarily or functionally illiterate. The realistic goal in such literacy courses is A2.</p> <p>Concerning the vocational language courses, the target level depends on the type of vocational course as well as on the needs and prerequisites of the specific attendant. General vocational courses range from language level A2 to C2.</p> <p>5. The integration course administrated by the BAMF consists of a language course and an orientation course, the latter of which aims at promoting democratic principles and values as well as the rule of law and provides information about the rights and obligations of citizens in Germany. The language course covers relevant topics of everyday life with the goal of empowering participants to develop the necessary communicative skills in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• introducing oneself and social interaction</li> <li>• classroom environment and routines</li> <li>• food and drink</li> <li>• communicating with services and authorities,</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• work and career</li> <li>• basic and further training</li> <li>• bringing up and raising children</li> <li>• service sector / banking / insurance</li> <li>• shopping / trade / consumption</li> <li>• leisure time</li> <li>• health and hygiene / human body</li> <li>• media and media use</li> <li>• places / mobility / transport</li> <li>• nature and environment</li> <li>• housing.</li> </ul> <p>Courses intended for specific participant groups (such as the courses for young adults or the courses for women) also address topics of particular interest, for example applying for an apprenticeship or contacting advice centers for women).</p> <p>All courses aim at (further) developing communicative skills, such as writing letters and e-mails in German, completing forms, making telephone calls, writing job applications and doing job interviews. Teachers are encouraged to address the use of digital media in class, although the development of digital skills is not an explicit course aim.</p> <p>The vocational language courses on the other hand are a broad, needs-oriented range of courses for integration into the labour market. Building on the integration courses, they prepare migrants and refugees for the working environment in Germany.</p> <p>The basic courses focus on the attainment of German language skills for all professions. These skills are taught using general language content from the world of work (like e.g. general office</p>
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			<p>communication or job interviews). The courses are designed for a group size of at least 15 participants. Smaller groups are also possible in rural regions.</p> <p>The teacher regularly records the participants' learning progress in writing and evaluates it together with them at the end of the course. Each course ends with a certificate examination. The certificate obtained is very helpful for the participant's further occupational development.</p> <p>The vocation specific, special courses are offered for different groups of people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Courses for people who are undergoing the recognition procedure for academic medical professions and specialist health care professions</li><li>• Courses with specialist content in various subject areas in the commercial, technical and retail sectors</li><li>• Courses with the entry level A1 and A2 for participants from the integration course who have not reached level B1</li></ul> <p>These specific courses teach a more targeted range of communication skills, tailored to the specific vocation or need, e.g. specialist language for medical professionals.</p> <p>6. The complete integration course consists of 700 units (each unit lasts 45 minutes), 600 of which are dedicated to the language course and 100 to the orientation course. Courses intended for specific groups (such as the literacy course) give participants more time and consist of up to 1300 lesson units (300 of which are allocated to participants who have not been able to reach the course goal after 1000 lesson units).</p>
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		<p>The duration of the vocational language courses on the other hand varies depending on the course type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The basic vocational language courses comprise 400 to 500 teaching units.</li> <li>• The recognition courses for medical professionals or healthcare specialists cover 600 teaching units.</li> <li>• The subject specific courses for commercial, technical or retail professions cover 300 teaching units.</li> <li>• The workplace language courses (“Job BSK”) cover a span of 100 to 150 teaching units.</li> </ul> <p>7.</p> <p>In addition to the regular integration course (700 lesson units), Germany provides several different courses in order to address differences in individual educational backgrounds, the pace of learning, social situations etc.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• literacy courses</li> <li>• courses for students learning an additional alphabet</li> <li>• courses for women</li> <li>• courses for parents</li> <li>• courses for young adults</li> <li>• catch-up courses for people with mostly informal language learning experience</li> <li>• intensive courses for fast learners.</li> </ul> <p>For a detailed overview over all the different types of vocational language courses (like basic vocational courses, recognition courses or workplace specific courses) the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees offers a handy graphic representation on their website: <a href="http://www.bamf.de/BSK-Arten">http://www.bamf.de/BSK-Arten</a></p> <p>8.</p>
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		Yes.
		9. Yes. Germany provides a range of opportunities for participating in language courses online, addressing communicative skills for everyday life as well as for professional purposes. All BAMF language courses from level A0 to C2 can – partly or in their entirety – be offered in the form of a live video conference, although it is recommended to teach courses below A2 as well as literacy courses in a classroom setting to promote trust and personal contact. To ensure quality standards, BAMF has developed guidelines for virtual courses and the use of digital media. The guidelines take into account the different educational backgrounds and social situations of participants (who might, for example, not have access to a desktop computer or who might benefit from a virtual course in order to better balance family and coursework). For more independent language learning there are several government-funded online opportunities. A widely used and BAMF-approved learning platform (also available as mobile app, vhs-lernportal.de) is the vhs learning portal developed by the association of German community colleges (DVV). Learners can participate in asynchronous self-study language courses in their own time and are virtually tutored. Other publicly funded online learning opportunities are provided by Deutsche Welle (lerngerman.dw.com) and the Goethe Institut (goethe.de/en/spr/ueb.html). All of them can be used for self-study but also in addition to government-funded courses. Furthermore, BAMF and the Austrian Integration Fonds (ÖIF) have initiated a cooperation, thus learners in Germany can also benefit from the Austrian learning portal (sprachportal.at) and its exercises and drop-in live video lessons.
	<b>EMN NCP Greece</b>	<b>Yes</b>
		1. NO. Settling of a third country national in Greece is not related to any language requirements.


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			<p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. Language courses and civic courses are offered for free, to migrants, applicants and beneficiaries of international protection, by various NGOs, International Organisations academic institutions, as well as by the Migrant Integration Centres of the Municipalities.</p> <p>4. a) The targeted level of the CEFR varies according to the programme. For example, The Migrant Integration Centres of the Municipalities usually offer programmes of A1 and A2 levels.</p> <p>5. b) The content of the courses depends on the level and is associated to what each CEFR foresees for each level.</p> <p>6. c) The duration of the courses varies and is associated to the level. For example, A1 courses usually offer 120-150 hours, while A2 courses offer around 200 hours.</p> <p>7. see answer above.</p> <p>8. d) The issue of a certificate of language proficiency on completion of the course, depends on the programme. Most programmes offer certificates of successful completion of the course.</p>
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			9. Various online language courses have been implanted for migrants and refugees, especially through e-learning platforms.
	<b>EMN NCP Hungary</b>	<b>Yes</b>	1. No  2. N/A  3. The migration authority in Hungary (National Directorate for Aliens Policing)  4. N/A  5. Language courses are organized by municipalities, NGOs or volunteers. Content varies from case to case.  6. N/A  7. N/A

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			8. No
			9. No
	<b>EMN NCP Italy</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. <i>In Italy, the language requirement is only required for the citizenship application. Beneficiaries of international protection do not need to fulfill the language requirement, not even in the case of conversion from a residence permit for international protection to a long-term EU residence permit for international protection reasons.</i></p> <p>2. <i>If a beneficiary of a residence permit for international protection applies for citizenship, s/he must also meet the language requirement, which should not be lower than level B1 of the CEFR.</i></p> <p>3. <i>Regarding asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection, if they are included in SAI projects (second reception centres), they can benefit from language courses provided within these projects, as outlined in the Ministerial Decree of November 18, 2019, and established by the guidelines of the SAI Manual. As for international protection applicants within first reception centers, language courses are not currently provided due to recent regulatory changes that have modified the delivery of this service. However, they may be offered by local associations, schools, and CPIA (Provincial Centers for Adult Education that manage public education for adults).</i></p> <p>4.</p>

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			<p>-</p> <p>5.</p> <p>-</p> <p>6.</p> <p>-</p> <p>7.</p> <p>-</p> <p>8.</p> <p>YES , <i>if foreseen by the course</i></p> <p>9.</p> <p><i>Yes, there are online language courses dedicated to migrants and refugees. The Migrants Integration Portal has developed a collection of online courses, websites, social networks, apps, podcasts for learning Italian, Instagram profiles with the aim of teaching the Italian language to third country nationals. These tools, free and freely accessible, allow users to engage in language activities independently and self-assess their own learning.</i></p>
<b>=</b>	<b>EMN NCP Latvia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1.</p> <p>YES</p> <p>In order to receive the permanent residence permit or the status of a long-term resident of the European Union (there is no such requirement for beneficiaries of international protection).</p>

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			<p>2. A person is entitled to apply for obtaining the status of a long-term resident of the European Union or for the receipt of a permanent residence permit if he or she has acquired the official language at least in Grade 2 of the basic level (A2). The examination is provided by the National Centre for Education using the State Examination Information System. The Centre is responsible for the technical support required for the test. The examination has four parts: listening skills, reading skills, writing skills, and speaking skills. The Centre develops an examination programme for each level and degree of the language proficiency. The requirements laid down for the listening skills, reading skills, writing skills, and speaking skills, the types of tasks, the duration of the course of each part of the examination, the maximum number of points in each tasks, and the evaluation procedures are indicated in the programme. The programme is approved by the head of the Centre and published on the website of the Centre (<a href="https://www.visc.gov.lv/lv/parbaudes-programma">https://www.visc.gov.lv/lv/parbaudes-programma</a>) and in the Information System. The person's proficiency in the language is evaluated according to the evaluation procedures specified in the programme. The examination is successfully passed if the language proficiency evaluation of a person in each of the skills (listening skills, reading skills, writing skills, and speaking skills) is not less than 60 per cent of the maximum number of points.</p> <p>3. Language courses are organized on project basis for legally residing third-country nationals and beneficiaries of international protection. There are also regularly organised integration courses for applicants of international protection and for legally residing third-country nationals on project basis. As of 2023, Latvian language training and integration courses are no longer provided separately for beneficiaries of international protection. Courses are available to third-country nationals and beneficiaries of international protection together. Language and integration courses are free of charge.</p> <p>4.</p>
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		<p>It depends on the target language proficiency level of the course, from A1 to C2.</p> <p>5. It depends on the language proficiency level of the course, but the overall objective of the courses is to provide modern and varied Latvian language learning for third-country nationals for further education, everyday communication and labour market needs.</p> <p>6. Courses are organized on project basis so the conditions may vary. Usually the duration of the courses is at least 120 academic hours (1 academic hour equals 45min).</p> <p>7. The language courses differ by the target proficiency level. There may also be some differences based on the provider of the course.</p> <p>8. NO, after finishing the courses in each level the participants are offered to take a Latvian language proficiency examination at the National Centre for Education. Only after passing the Latvian language examination successfully the participant will receive a Latvian language proficiency certificate to prove to the employer and educational institutions their ability to communicate in Latvian.</p> <p>9. YES, there are language courses for third country nationals that take place online using online conference platforms, but as the courses are organized on project basis it can vary. There are also Latvian language study materials available online listed on the website of the National Centre for Education: <a href="https://www.visc.gov.lv/lv/parbaudes-programma">https://www.visc.gov.lv/lv/parbaudes-programma</a>. There are reading, vocabulary and</p>
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			grammar exercises, examples from exams, etc. There is also a self-study and interactive learning tool e-Laipa ( <a href="https://elaipa.lv/Home/A1">https://elaipa.lv/Home/A1</a> ), learning and self-assessment exercises on the website <a href="http://www.sazinastilts.lv/">http://www.sazinastilts.lv/</a> , interactive study materials and games prepared by State Language Agency on the website <a href="https://maciunmacies.valoda.lv/">https://maciunmacies.valoda.lv/</a> .
	EMN NCP Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. No. There are no language requirements to settle in Lithuania. However, there is a language requirement for most applicants to obtain a permanent residence permit – the applicant must pass the state language exam (equivalent to A2 level). It should also be noted that national law also imposes language requirements for many jobs – as a general rule, the more interaction is required in a job, the higher the language requirements. Proficiency in the state language is regulated by the Government Resolution No. 1688 of 24 December 2003 on the Approval and Implementation of Categories of Proficiency in the State Language &lt;<a href="https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.224296/asr">https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.224296/asr</a>&gt;. According to this regulation, there are three language proficiency categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>First Language Proficiency Category (A2 Level)</b> Jobs: Service, production, trade, transportation, and other sectors where employees must interact with people and/or fill out typical document forms. Examples: Drivers, cloakroom attendants, waiters, salespeople, and other trade employees, as well as those performing economic or technical functions.</li> <li>• <b>Second Language Proficiency Category (B1 Level)</b> Jobs: Education, culture, healthcare, social protection, and other sectors, including civil servants and officials requiring no higher than advanced college education and continuous interaction with people and/or filling out typical document forms.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Third Language Proficiency Category (at least B2 Level and higher)</b> Jobs: Leaders of state and municipal institutions, enterprises, and organizations, civil servants and officials requiring higher university or equivalent education. Also applicable to teachers teaching in the state language, aviation specialists ensuring flight safety, maritime and inland water transport specialists responsible for cargo or passenger transport.</li> <li>• <b>Special Provisions</b><b>Foreigners granted temporary protection in Lithuania are exempt from these language requirements for three years</b> from the grant of protection.</li> </ul> <p>2. Foreigners applying for a permanent residence permit or citizenship must pass the state language exam. The state language exam tests the first language proficiency category and is broadly equivalent to the A2 level tests organized by the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE). The exam has a written (reading, writing, listening) and an oral (speaking) part.</p> <p>3. The provision of language courses is not centralized. Various state and municipal institutions or agencies may be involved in organizing or providing funding for language courses. Language courses are organized and provided by both public and private entities. There are many private companies that are specialized in providing language courses. In general, there are few unpaid options to study the Lithuanian language beyond A2 level. The Employment Service invites all foreigners to learn Lithuanian for free. The funding is available to both jobseekers and those already in employment, EU or European Free Trade Association nationals and their family members living in Lithuania, as well as third-country nationals who have a residence permit for at least a year. While it is up to the foreigner to choose where to study, the Employment Service staff are available for consultations. In order to apply for free language courses, the foreigner</p>
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		<p>must register with the Employment Service. The Employment Service then concludes a tripartite or bilateral agreement with the foreigner on non-formal adult education.</p> <p>According to Article 110 of the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners, persons who have been granted asylum in Lithuania receive state support for learning the Lithuanian language. The Refugee Reception Center organizes initial intensive courses. These courses may be continued at a chosen municipality for free.</p> <p>Free language courses for foreigners, especially for refugees from Ukraine, are also provided by municipalities, educational institutions and non-governmental organizations.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>The targeted level of courses funded by the Employment Service – A1 and A2.</p> <p>The targeted level of language courses targeting persons who received asylum in Lithuania is A2. A2 is the minimum level required for applying for citizenship or permanent residence in Lithuania.</p> <p>5.</p> <p>As there is no centralized provision of language courses, the content of courses is not regulated. The content of each course is primarily defined by its level. The relevant level for most foreigners is A2, which is required to pass the state language exam. However, please note that the <u>content of the state language exam</u> is defined by Order No. ISAK-209 of 11 February 2004 of the Minister of Education and Science on the Approval of the State Language Examination Program. Part 2 of this order defines the content of the exam in detail: &lt; <a href="https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.227833/asr">https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.227833/asr</a> &gt;. Since language schools know the content of the exam, their courses are oriented to preparing students for passing the exam.</p> <p>According to the above-mentioned order, the examination aims to assess the candidates' <u>ability to meet essential communication needs in typical daily scenarios through various tasks in reading, writing, listening, and speaking</u>, ensuring they can effectively navigate social and professional environments.</p>
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- Reading: Candidates are expected to demonstrate their ability to understand the main idea, key information, and details of texts that they might encounter in everyday life. This includes materials such as street signs, public transport notices, appliance instructions, entries in monolingual dictionaries, personal letters, and articles from newspapers, magazines, and encyclopedias.
- Writing: The exam assesses candidates' capability to complete simple forms typical of everyday documents and to compose short, coherent texts necessary for basic daily needs. This section evaluates how well candidates can convey necessary information, utilize textual cohesion devices like conjunctions and pronouns, and correctly apply grammatical structures.
- Listening: This part tests the ability to understand and note down simple factual information from spoken language, including neutral-style dialogues and monologues, such as telephone conversations and recorded messages. The settings of these texts are common, straightforward, and easily imaginable.
- Speaking: Candidates must demonstrate their conversational skills with an examiner by asking and answering simple questions, and briefly discussing topics related to personal life, living conditions, professional activities, social life, and hobbies.

The exam also evaluates comprehension strategies where candidates need to distinguish between main and secondary ideas, facts from commentary, and identify necessary information within a text. They should also utilize non-linguistic cues like illustrations, fonts, tone, and intonation to aid understanding.

Compensation strategies are tested to ensure candidates can effectively communicate even in unfamiliar situations without disruption, finding ways to overcome linguistic shortcomings.


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		<p>Topics covered: The exam includes a range of themes such as personal identity, housing, nature, daily life, leisure activities, travel, human relationships, health, education, commerce, and abstract concepts like existence, space, time, quantity, and mental activities. These topics are chosen to ensure they do not provoke discomfort among candidates.</p> <p>6. It should be noted that there is no formal definition of the number of hours needed to reach a certain level of Lithuanian. It depends on the ability and motivation of the individual learner, as well as on the teaching methodology etc. Since there is no centralized provision of language courses and the state's involvement, if any, is generally limited to the provision of funding, the duration of courses may vary significantly. Intensive courses typically last 4-5 weeks, while normal courses take about 2-3 months. The duration of courses funded by the Employment Service is 90 academic hours. The duration of courses provided to persons who received asylum in Lithuania is at least 96 hours and an additional 96 hours if the person fails to reach A1 level in a month. Upon reaching A1 level, a course of 190 hours is organized in order to reach A2 level. Upon completing the course, the beneficiary of international protection takes the state language exam. If the person fails to pass the state language exam for justifiable reasons, an additional course of up to 100 hours may be funded, upon completing which the beneficiary of international protection retakes the state language exam. For comparison, Language and Culture Institute "Lingua Lituanica" offers paid courses to study 100 academic hours to reach A1 level and an additional 100 hours to reach A2 level. &lt;<a href="https://lingualit.lt/lt/main/kalbos-mokymas/lietuviu-kalbos-kursai/lietuviu-kalbos-kursai-vilniuje-/?&gt;">https://lingualit.lt/lt/main/kalbos-mokymas/lietuviu-kalbos-kursai/lietuviu-kalbos-kursai-vilniuje-/?&gt;</a></p> <p>7. It is not really possible to generalize because the provision of language courses are not centralized. Both intense courses and evening courses for employed persons are available. Private companies provide online courses and individual tutoring as well.</p>
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			<p>8. In general, each institution or organization organizing language courses provides some kind of certificate upon completion of their course. These certificates may be relevant to employers as proof of language proficiency. The state issues a certificate upon passing the state language exam, which is required in applying for citizenship or permanent residence permit.</p> <p>9. As was mentioned in the answers to previous questions, various language course options are available in a decentralized way, including online courses.</p>
	EMN NCP Luxemb ourg	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. No.</p> <p>2. N/A.</p> <p>3. The law of 23 August 2023 on intercultural living together (which entered into force on 1st January 2024) establishes the Biergerpakt (Citizen's pact).</p> <p>The 'Biergerpakt' (Citizen's Pact) is a moral commitment that testifies to the willingness of its signatories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to participate in the intercultural living together approach; and</li> <li>• to promote the values associated with it.</li> </ul>

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		<p>Joining the 'Biergerpakt' is voluntary and gives access to the intercultural living together programme. The offer is open to any person who lives or works in Luxembourg, regardless of their nationality, residence status or duration of stay.</p> <p>Through the intercultural living together programme, members of the citizen's pact have access to information and training modules that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote access to information; and</li> <li>• encourage civic participation.</li> </ul> <p>The programme consists of:</p> <p>a. 3 introductory modules to life in Luxembourg, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An “Orientation day”: a module of at least 4 hours to facilitate access to information, provide guidance in everyday life and encourage civic participation in Luxembourg;</li> <li>• A module “Discover Luxembourg”: a module of at least 6 hours providing an overview of Luxembourg, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o its history, geography and natural and cultural heritage;</li> <li>o its political, educational and social systems;</li> <li>o its intercultural and multilingual context and its values;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A language module: free access to an online platform that allows participants to get in contact with the country’s official languages in a non-formal way by following one or more modules that allow to achieve at least introductory level A.1.1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages in at least one of Luxembourg's administrative languages (Luxembourgish, German and French);</li> </ul> <p>b. a catalogue of individual modules (advanced modules) that takes into account the diversity of participants and contain a choice of activities and training courses aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o language learning and practice;</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o understanding administrative procedures;</li> <li>o deepening knowledge of life in Luxembourg, its history and cultural heritage;</li> <li>o promoting diversity and interculturality;</li> <li>o raising awareness of the fight against racism and all forms of discrimination;</li> <li>o discovering the values of Luxembourg and its range of social, economic, political and cultural activities;</li> <li>o encouraging civic commitment and active participation at national and local level.</li> </ul> <p>These modules are set up in collaboration with a wide range of partners from the state, communal and non-governmental sectors. They aim to promote access to information and encourage citizen participation. The offer will be developed on an ongoing basis, and the catalogue will continuously be adapted according to the needs identified by participants and potential participants.</p> <p>Newcomers, in particular third country nationals who do not yet have the language skills to participate in the introductory modules of the Biergerpakt, can sign up for the "Welcome to Luxembourg" module. This module is offered to adults residing or working in Luxembourg and is aimed primarily at applicants and beneficiaries of international protection and beneficiaries of temporary protection. It lasts 6 hours and is taught in easy French or English inspired by the Mediation Grammar (MG) and the Multimodality Methodology to promote linguistic accessibility, informational adequacy, and actualization of rights and obligations/responsibilities. This module is a transitional one, it prepares first and foremostly applicants and beneficiaries of international protection and beneficiaries of temporary protection for potential further active participation in the Biergerpakt.</p> <p>In addition, a variety of language practice activities is offered within the Biergerpakt, by municipalities and association, by the National language institute as well as other training centers.</p> <p>4.</p>
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		<p>The minimum target required within the framework of the living together program is A.1.1. Candidates have access to an online language learning platform that allows to achieve the minimum language level at their own pace.</p> <p>If the candidate has already attained A.1.1. proficiency in German, French or Luxembourgish, they are offered more profound thematic exercises to further develop their proficiency in the language in question or choose a language in which they have not yet attained basic-level proficiency.</p> <p>Language courses are provided under the supervision of the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth (Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse), and candidates may choose among approved courses offered by communes, associations and the National Institute for Languages (Institut national des langues – INL).</p> <p>The skills acquired at the end of the courses are evaluated in a detailed skills assessment report issued by the training organization.</p> <p>A minimum attendance of 70% is compulsory and is documented in an attendance certificate issued by the training organization.</p> <p>5.</p> <p>Language courses are offered under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, who has within its responsibilities adult and continuous education through contracted providers who have a convention with the Department of Adult Education of the Ministry.</p> <p>The general content of the courses depends on the service provider but the beneficiary has to be able to understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type.</p> <p>Also he/she has to be able to introduce him/herself and others and to ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Finally, the</p>
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		<p>beneficiary can be able to interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.</p> <p>6. The duration of the language courses depends on the service provider: Municipalities normally propose yearly courses and the National Language Institute propose 6-months modules. Short intensive courses (6 weeks-2 month) are also available.</p> <p>7. See answer to Q.6. There are normal courses that are proposed two times per week but there can be intensive courses (four to five times per week).</p> <p>8. YES. However there is no point system put into place for evaluating the foreigner's performance. The skills acquired at the end of a course are assessed through a descriptive assessment of competences issued by the service provider, certifying specific levels of language proficiency according to the CEFR. In the case of the National Language Institute at the end of each module there is an examination that consists in two parts: a) written examination and b) oral examination. If the beneficiary passes the first level then s/he can register to the next level (A.1.2) and so on.</p> <p>9. Yes, INL offers blended learning classes and SFA Kirchberg offers literacy classes that are partially or fully online. The online language platform offered by the INL and also within the framework of the Biergerpakt is called Learn Luxembourgish Online (<a href="http://www.llo.lu">www.llo.lu</a>). It allows interested persons to evaluate their language competences and to follow exercises at their own rhythm. The Biergerpakt platform for German and French (levels A1 to C1) is based on the same technology.</p>
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			<p>Moreover, online Luxembourgish course is offered on a e-platform (Quattropole). The online language course "Luxembourgish" has been developed by the QuattroPole city network in cooperation with the University of Luxembourg and the Luxembourg Ministry of Education and Vocational Training.</p> <p>SFA IBA and IL classes have used video material that students can also visualize online (youtube) or that is sent to students via social media platforms.</p>
	<b>EMN NCP Netherlands</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. Yes, all third-country nationals who have to pass the civic integration obligation (<i>inburgeringsplicht</i>) are obliged to meet language requirements, since this is part of the civic integration process. People have 3 years to meet the civic integration obligation after their arrival in the Netherlands.[1] Among other exception grounds, this does not apply to third country nationals who temporarily come to the Netherlands for study or work purposes. See also the answer to question 3.</p> <p>[1] DUO, 'U gaat inburgeren', <a href="https://www.inburgeren.nl/u-gaat-inburgeren/index.jsp">https://www.inburgeren.nl/u-gaat-inburgeren/index.jsp</a>, last accessed on 25 March 2024.</p> <p>2. Article 7 of the 2021 Civic Integration Act (<i>Wet Inburgering 2021</i>) specifies that the civic integration examination consists of the examination of oral and written skills in the Dutch language at least at level B1 of the CEFR (and the examination of knowledge of Dutch society). Nonetheless, in some cases, a lower level is also sufficient (e.g. when people do pass examination under the previous Act (<i>Wet Inburgering 2013</i>) or when it is simply impossible for people to meet the level B1 requirement, see answer to question 4).</p>

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3.

The following answer was given for the EMN inform on the implementation of measures for civic orientation courses (or training) as an important tool for the integration of third-country nationals (EMN AHQ 2023.57):

In the Netherlands civic orientation courses are offered to all third-country nationals as long as the purpose of their legal residence is long term and they are obliged to civically integrate. This includes beneficiaries of international protection and third-country nationals who entered the country through family reunification with a person residing in the Netherlands for a longer term.

Excluded are third-country national minors who are of school age (under 16) or of 'qualification age' (*kwalificatieplichtig*, between 16-18 years) and people over the retirement age of 67. Being in the possession of certain Dutch certificates and degrees of courses in the Dutch languages is also an exemption ground, as is a minimum stay of 8 years when the minor third-country national had to follow compulsory education. Third-country nationals whose purpose of legal residence is short term, for instance in case of study, work, medical, research or temporary humanitarian purposes, are excluded as well and are not offered civic integration courses. As an exception spiritual counsellors (*geestelijk bedienaren*) are obliged to civically integrate following Article 3 (1b) of the Civic Integration Act 2021 (*Wet inburgering 2021*, Wi2021). Spiritual counsellors are, generally speaking, persons performing religious, spiritual or worldly contemplative (*levensbeschouwende*) duties for an association or society.

Please note that a subtle nuance to the word offered should be made in the Netherlands. Beneficiaries of international protection are literally offered the courses by the municipality, as the municipality purchases the courses of market parties for the beneficiary. Legal migrants have to choose and purchase their own courses from market parties. They can make use of a social loan of the Executive Agency for Education (*Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs*, DUO) for this. They are thus, technically speaking,

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		<p>not offered the courses directly by the municipality. However, the municipality is by law responsible to offer the courses to this group, optionally via market parties.[1]</p> <p>[1] EMN inform on the implementation of measures for civic orientation courses (or training) as an important tool for the integration of third-country nationals, 15 December 2023.</p> <p>4. As already mentioned in the answer to question 2, Article 7 of the 2021 Civic Integration Act (<i>Wet Inburgering 2021</i>) specifies that the civic integration examination consists of the examination of oral and written skills in the Dutch language at least at level B1 of the CEFR (and the examination of knowledge of Dutch society). So, B1 is the targeted level.</p> <p>However, there are three different types of learning tracks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. B1 track: the B1 track prepares people for paid or voluntary work in the Netherlands. Within 3 years they take the language exams at language proficiency level B1. If this proves impossible, there is an option to scale down to language proficiency level A2.</li> <li>2. Education track: the education track is designed for people with the ambition to continue in Dutch education. This track prepares people for a study programme at secondary vocational education (MBO), higher vocational education (HBO), or university. Within 3 years they take the language exams at language proficiency level B1 or higher.</li> <li>3. Self-reliance track: the self-reliance track is designed for people who are required to complete the civic integration process, and for whom the education and B1 tracks are too challenging. They learn Dutch at language proficiency level A1, as well as how to participate in Dutch society. People in this track have the opportunity to take language exams, but they are not compulsory. However, following 800 hours of Dutch language courses is compulsory. Additionally, 800 hours</li> </ol>
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		<p>of participation activities are required to be able to meet the civic integration obligation. The self-reliance track ends with a conversation with the municipality.[1]</p> <p>[1] DUO, 'U gaat inburgeren', <a href="https://www.inburgeren.nl/u-gaat-inburgeren/index.jsp">https://www.inburgeren.nl/u-gaat-inburgeren/index.jsp</a>, last accessed on 25 March 2024.</p> <p>5. The four language components of the exam are speaking, listening, reading and writing.[1] There are two knowledge exams: Knowledge of Dutch Society (KNM) and Job market and participation module (MAP).</p> <p>[1] DUO, 'Examen doen', <a href="https://www.inburgeren.nl/examen-doen/inhoud-taalexamens-a2-b1-b2.jsp">https://www.inburgeren.nl/examen-doen/inhoud-taalexamens-a2-b1-b2.jsp</a>, last accessed on 25 March 2024.</p> <p>6. There is no specific duration related to the offered language courses. People have 3 years to complete the whole civic integration process to meet the civic integration obligation in time. This period starts after their arrival in the Netherlands from the moment the personal integration and participation plan (PIP) is established and the Education Executive Agency (DUO) has sent them a notification that their civic integration period formally started.</p> <p>7. See the answer to question 4 for the different learning tracks. When it comes to different types of courses it is also important to mention that there are two types of language courses:</p>
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			<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Dutch as a second language (Nt2) course: this course is the best option when someone wants to study or work. After this course, people take the language exams at level A2, B1 or B2 (Nt2 State exam).</li><li>2. Literacy course: only if one can't read or write (well), they choose a literacy course. They learn to read and write (and learn Dutch as well). Usually they still need to take the integration course after the literacy course, and pass the exam.[1]</li></ol> <p>[1] DUO, 'U gaat inburgeren', <a href="https://www.inburgeren.nl/u-gaat-inburgeren/cursus-kiezen.jsp">https://www.inburgeren.nl/u-gaat-inburgeren/cursus-kiezen.jsp</a>, last accessed on 25 March 2024.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>8.</li></ol> <p>After passing the different components of the language exams a diploma is issued or a certificate when the Self-reliance track (Z-route) is completed.[1]</p> <p>[1] DUO, 'Examen doen', <a href="https://www.inburgeren.nl/examen-doen/uitslag.jsp">https://www.inburgeren.nl/examen-doen/uitslag.jsp</a>, last accessed on 25 March 2024.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>9.</li></ol> <p>Yes, while the exams are centrally organized, a diverse array of organizations and platforms facilitate language courses for refugees. These platforms encompass online resources such as e-learning modules, interactive video sessions with language instructors, and mobile applications. Moreover, 'welcome apps' play a pivotal role in assisting refugees with various aspects of integration, including meeting language requirements through information dissemination and connecting individuals with local citizens or organizations for additional support. It's imperative to recognize that not all refugees can fully</p>
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			participate in online classes to meet their integration obligations. For groups encountering learning obstacles, such as refugees in the Z-route and select individuals in the B1-route, attendance in a combination of online and physical classes, or exclusively physical classes, is required. Refugees in the B1-route who need to downgrade to A2 level are required to take a combination of online and physical classes. That means half of the classes (300 hours) must be conducted in person, while the other half should take place online. As for the refugees in the Z-route, all classes must take place physically.
	 EMN NCP Poland	Yes	<p>1. YES</p> <p>The requirement for knowledge of the Polish language exists, not counting the requirements for obtaining citizenship, only for long-term residents of the European Union.</p> <p>2. B1</p> <p>Pursuant to Article 211(3) of the Act on Foreigners, knowledge of the Polish language is confirmed by one of the following documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. by certification of knowledge of the Polish language at a language proficiency level of at least B1;</li> <li>2. with a certificate of graduation from a school in the Republic of Poland within the meaning of Article 2 of the <i>scope of the educational system</i> point 2 of the Act of 14 December 201. - Education Law (Journal of Laws of 2021, item 1082, as amended) or a university within the meaning of the Act of 20 July 2018. - Law on Higher Education and Science with a Polish language of instruction;</li> <li>3. with a certificate of graduation from a school or university with Polish as the language of instruction abroad, corresponding to a school or university within the meaning, respectively, of Article 2 <i>scope of the educational system</i> item 2 of the abovementioned Act of 14 December 2016.</li> </ol>

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		<p>The provision on the requirement of knowledge of the Polish language shall not apply to a minor foreigner who has not reached the age of 16 by the date of application for a long-term resident's EU residence permit. (Art. 211 p. 3(4))</p> <p>At the same time it should be noted that, Poland does not provide Polish language courses for the purpose of acquiring a long-term resident's EU residence permit (see Poland's answer to AHQ 37.2022).</p> <p>3.</p> <p>The Polish educational system offers additional Polish language class for persons/students who are not Polish citizens. In line with art. 165 of Education Law persons who are not Polish citizens, thus including third-country nationals, who do not speak Polish to the extent allowing them to benefit from school education may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- participate in additional classes of Polish language;</li> <li>- study in the form of a preparatory class, in which the teaching process is adapted to the needs and educational capabilities of pupils;</li> <li>- benefit from additional remedial classes in the subject area organised by the school authority.</li> </ul> <p>The decision to grant a given form of support is made by a head of school in agreement with a school managing body.</p> <p>The decision to either integrate third country nationals' students into regular classes or into preparatory ones depends, mainly, on the level of knowledge of the Polish language. The authority running the school may organise a preparatory class for persons who are not Polish citizens, who do not know the Polish language or know it at a level insufficient to benefit from education, and who require adapting the education process to their needs and educational possibilities, as well as adapting the organisational form supporting the effectiveness of their education. Teaching in the preparatory class is conducted on the basis of a general education curricula implemented at school, adapted in terms of the scope of teaching content, methods and forms of their implementation to the development and educational</p>
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			<p>needs and psychophysical abilities of pupils. Pupils in the preparatory class have at least 6 hours a week of Polish language, the remaining hours can be freely allocated by the head of school for the implementation of activities supporting the adaptation of pupils and preparing them for further study. In regard to applicants for international protection: In accordance with the obligations under the Act on granting protection to foreigners within the territory of the Republic of Poland, the Office for Foreigners provides foreigners applying for international protection and benefiting from social assistance of the Office for Foreigners Polish language classes and basic materials necessary to learn this language. Also foreigners benefiting from social assistance can attend orientation courses that are conducted at the centers for foreigners</p> <p>4. With regard to the forms of support for language learning referred to in Q3 (regarding the education system), the main objective of the support is to enable the pupils coming from abroad to fully benefit from the educational process, on the same footing as their Polish peers. In regard to applicants for international protection: Classes are conducted on the basis of a curriculum developed at the request of the Office for Foreigners at A1 level with A2 elements, A2 level with B1 elements and B1 with B2 elements. Classes are conducted taking into account the level of language knowledge, i.e. currently classes include levels A0 to B2</p> <p>5. In line with the Education Law and its delegated act, during the preparatory class - Polish language learning is conducted according to the curriculum developed on the basis of the framework program of Polish language courses for foreigners, referred to in the provisions issued pursuant to Article 92 para. 2 of the Social Assistance Act of 12 March 2004 (Journal of Laws 2023, item. 901, 1693 and 1938). The proposed division of Polish language courses for foreigners breaks down into four parts, corresponding to individual levels of language proficiency (A1, A2, B1 or B2), makes it possible to adapt its layout to</p>
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		<p>the needs of learners – e.g. their age, level of knowledge and skills, cognitive opportunities or length of stay in Poland.</p> <p>In regard to applicants for international protection: Polish language courses conducted for children cover topics such as specific communication needs of children applying for international protection in Poland including the acquisition of basic skills, such as introducing yourself and your family, simulating communication situations at school, emphasises knowledge acquisition and consolidation about the basics of communication in schools and schools' rules. Courses conducted for adults cover specific communication needs of foreigners applying for international protection in Poland, including real-life and sociocultural content. The learning program includes acquisition and development of basic skills, such as introducing yourself and your family and simulating communication situations: in a shop, in a restaurant, on the street, at the doctor's office, on the road, at school, at an interview or when renting and arranging an apartment.</p> <p>6.</p> <p>When it comes to the preparatory class, the period of the pupil's education in the this class lasts until the end of didactic and educational activities in the school year in which the pupil was qualified for the preparatory class; however, depending on the pupil's learning progress and educational needs, this period may be shortened or extended, not longer than one school year.</p> <p>In regard to applicants for international protection - In accordance with the obligations under the Act on granting protection to foreigners within the territory of the Republic of Poland, the Office for Foreigners provides foreigners benefiting from social assistance of the Office for Foreigners Polish language classes and basic materials necessary to learn this language. Polish language classes are free and not obligatory and foreigners can participate in them without the limit during all the time awaiting for the decision on granting international protection.</p> <p>7.</p>
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			<p>Ministry of Science and Higher Education does not organise Polish language courses, including language-adaptation/integration courses for foreign candidates for studies or foreign students. This kind of courses can be organised by the universities and schools within their granted autonomy.</p> <p>In regard to applicants for international protection - Polish language classes for children are conducted at the centers for foreigners and online and consist with elements of school language education, including help with homework and remedial classes. A teacher conducting the classes is in contact with the schools attended by children. This helps with exchanging the information about progress and problems in learning. Children who start their compulsory school education in Poland, have the opportunity to participate in the Polish language classes aimed at facilitating the adaptation to school community. These classes take form of learning Polish as a foreign language with real-life and socio-cultural elements.</p> <p>Children who begin their compulsory education in Poland benefit from the Polish language teaching program and methodological solutions. The curriculum takes into account the specific communication needs of children applying for international protection in Poland including the acquisition of basic skills, such as introducing yourself and your family, simulating communication situations at school, emphasises knowledge acquisition and consolidation about the basics of communication in schools and schools' rules.</p> <p>Polish classes for adults are conducted in all of the centres for foreigners and in the territory of Warsaw and online. Classes are conducted on the basis of a curriculum developed at the request of the Office for Foreigners at A1 level with A2 elements and A2 level with B1 elements and B1 with B2 elements. The curriculum takes into account the specific communication needs of foreigners applying for international protection in Poland, including real-life and sociocultural content. The learning program includes acquisition and development of basic skills, such as introducing yourself and your family and simulating communication situations: in a shop, in a restaurant, on the street, at the doctor's office, on the road, at school, at an interview or when renting and arranging an apartment.</p>
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			<p>8. The State Commission for the Certification of Proficiency in Polish as a Foreign Language, is responsible for issuing a certificate of proficiency in Polish as a foreign language. The certificate is an official certification of proficiency in Polish as a foreign language, which can be obtained by a foreigner or a Polish citizen permanently residing abroad, after passing an examination in Polish as a foreign language. The certificate obtained on the basis of the Polish Language Act of 7 October 1999 - irrespective of the confirmation of knowledge of the Polish language - also gives the foreigner holding it important rights, such as allowing him/her to apply for recognition as a citizen of the Republic of Poland (certificate at least B1 level - according to Art. 30(2) of the Polish Citizenship Act of 2 April 2009), or to obtain at a public university an exemption from fees related to the education of foreigners in full-time studies in the Polish language (certificate at the level of at least C1 - in accordance with Article 324(2) of the PSWN). However, taking the exam does not entail the obligation to participate in a specific language course financed by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education.</p> <p>When it comes to preparatory classes referred to Q6., no certificate of language proficiency is issued.</p> <p>In regard to applicants for international protection - At the end of the course a certificate is issued for adult participants who have achieved a positive result in a verification test. The certificate confirms completion of the course at a specific level.</p> <p>If a person does not achieve a positive test result or does not take the test - a certificate of participation in the course is issued, provided that the person's attendance was at least 50%.</p> <p>The certificate includes information that a foreigner participated in the course carried out on the basis of an agreement with the Office for Foreigners and the language level of the group.</p> <p>9. Yes.</p> <p>In regard to applicants for international protection - Polish language classes for applicant for international protection are also conducted through online platform. Classes are carried out for</p>
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			<p>foreigners living in the territory of Poland who benefit from social assistance of the Office for Foreigners. Online classes for adults take place 3 hours a week, at minimum 2 times a week and for children 4 hours a week, at minimum 3 times a week. Language learning materials are also available for download on the Office's website.</p> <p>Beneficiaries of international protection in Poland can count on assistance aimed at supporting their integration process in a new country.</p> <p>The basic instrument for the integration of refugees in Poland, which, among other things, enables the improvement of language competences, is an individual integration program (IPI) implemented for twelve months. The main assumption of the program is to enable the refugee to function independently in Polish society, and fluent knowledge of the Polish language is to facilitate this process for the foreigner. Funds for the implementation of the individual integration program are paid from the state budget through voivodes.</p> <p>As a rule, the entities involved in integration activities at this stage are the refugee (his/her family) and the social welfare center or the district family assistance center. The refugee's duties include meetings with a person representing the assistance institution (twice a month), who is responsible for the implementation of the individual integration program, active job search and, if necessary, participation in Polish language classes. The regulations show that the situation regarding the obligation to learn the Polish language differs in the case of foreigners whose proceedings resulted in a positive decision to grant refugee status or subsidiary protection in Poland and in the case of persons completing the pre-integration stage. Foreigners covered by an individual integration program, as stated in the regulations, are obliged to learn the language, but Art. 93 section 1 point 2 letter c of the Act on Social Assistance specifies that this obligation arises "when such a need arises", so we can talk about the discretion clause, which the legislator introduced as an instrument to be used mainly by employees of social assistance services assessing the individual needs of a refugee.</p>
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			<p>The fee payable to a training institution for organising training for one foreigner for one training cannot exceed PLN 2,000. In justified cases, <i>starosta</i> (regional administrative body) may increase the amount due to the training institution for organising an industrial Polish language training for one foreigner to PLN 3,000 for one training.</p> <p>A person qualified for Polish language training for foreigners receives a referral for training that includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the name of the district labor office issuing the referral and the date of issue of the referral;</li> <li>2. name and address of the training institution;</li> <li>3. name and surname and PESEL number of the foreigner, and in the absence thereof, the number of the document confirming identity, and the address of residence of this foreigner;</li> <li>4. name, date and place of the training;</li> <li>5. information about rights and obligations related to participation in the training.</li> </ol> <p>Foreigners undergoing Polish language training pursuant to Art. 40b of the Act of April 20, 2004 on the promotion of employment and labor market institutions, the scholarship is not granted.</p> <p>A foreigner may take part in one training of this type.</p> <p>A foreigner who interrupted the Polish language training due to his own fault, returns the amount spent on financing the training in an amount proportional to the length of the training remaining until its completion.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Portugal</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>1. YES. Under the Foreigners' Law, the applicant for a permanent residence permit must prove a foundational knowledge of "basic Portuguese".</p>

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		<p>2. Proof of language ability to A2 Level on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).</p> <p>3. In Portugal, the integration of migrants and refugee citizens becomes gradually and multidimensionally. This path aims to ensure that all residents benefit from identical opportunities and living conditions. That said, Portugal does not have civic orientation courses foreseen in its integration plan. However, activities related to citizenship and civic participation are integrated and promoted through other existing measures. Examples of good practices are the Portuguese Host Language (PLA) courses, that target all foreign citizens, aged 16 or over, with a resident permit or visa or proof of initiation of the regularization procedure.</p> <p>4. A2-level learner of Portuguese do?Learners who achieve A2 level:• can understand sentences and common expressions about familiar topics, including very basic personal and family information, shopping, places of interest and work• can communicate in simple, everyday tasks that require only simple and direct exchanges of information on familiar topics• can describe aspects of their past, environment and matters related to their immediate needs, using simple language.The curricular unit of Portuguese Language for Foreigners is systematized according to theCouncil of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for language learning, teachingand assessment (CEFR), namely to the level A2. It is structured semi-intensively, throughout fourhours a day, five days a week, during six weeks, corresponding to 9 ECTS (European CreditTransfer and Accumulation System). Actually, the students will have 120 contact hours(laboratorial classes) and 123 hours of individual work. The students will integrate the work ofthe following skills: understanding (listening and reading), speaking (spoken interaction andspoken production) and writing. The curricular unit is structured in two modules (level A.2.1 and level A.2.2)</p> <p>5. The aim of the course is to provide students with the basic user competence in the PortugueseLanguage, becoming familiar with the main grammar issues and lexicology, thus being</p>
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		<p>provided with the basic user communication skills of this language. Our main language instruction objective is to establish a language classroom context, which is similar to real communication contexts. This aim is achieved by following closely the principles of accessibility, consistency, careful selection of teaching units, gradual transition from simple to more complex linguistic structures, as well as the application of the communicative situation as a means of acquiring the peculiarities of speech pragmatics. The learning process will be eased by real visits to the market, train/bus station, supermarkets and cafés, where students will be encouraged to use their newly acquired knowledge and originate dialogues and ask questions to passers-by and tourist guides. Thus they will learn how to elicit information from a real-life conversation. Foreign students will learn the basic Portuguese language structure, focusing on comprehension, speaking and writing skills. Interactive methods with communication purposes will be used, such as group work, brainstorming, games, as well as traditional pedagogic methods (discussion, individual work, work with textbooks, namely the student book and the exercise book, etc.), all of which will contribute to the quicker learning of the language and the development of effective linguistic and communication competences of the students. Thus, the communicative skills in this narrower sense has the following components: linguistic competences; sociolinguistic and (inter) cultural competences; and, whenever possible, pragmatic competences.</p> <p>6. Total Hours: 243 Contact hours: 120 Individual working hours: 123</p> <p>7. The Portuguese government provides free Portuguese language courses for foreigners, both in public schools and in employment and vocational training centres of the Instituto de Emprego e Formação Profissional (IEFP), the Portuguese institute of employment and vocational training.</p> <p>8. YES.</p>
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			9. The Universidade Aberta of Portugal recently joined the solidarity campaign going on towards the Ukrainian refugees by offering its online Portuguese course for foreigners completely free of charge to adult Ukrainian people living in Portugal and wishing to acquire basic communication skills in Portuguese language. The online course Português Viva Voz is focused on the spoken language and its use in everyday situations. The course is usually structured in independent learning modules that aim to provide learners with the communication competences defined in the Common Framework of Reference for Languages for the following levels: Level A1.1, Level A1.2, Level A2. Each module lasts for 12 weeks. The English language is used as a mediation language to facilitate the students' activities.
	<b>EMN NCP Serbia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. NO</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. In the Republic of Serbia, only language courses for the beneficiaries of international protection are organized and financed by the state.</p> <p>4. Expected level and equivalent to the CEFR after organized of language courses is A2.</p> <p>5. The courses are of general content.</p> <p>6.</p>


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		<p>According to the Regulation on the means of inclusion in social, cultural and economic life of persons granted the right to asylum, the duration depends on age, employment and education status.</p> <p>a) Adult persons, who are not included in regular education system in the Republic of Serbia are provided with 300 classes of the Serbian language during one school year. In addition to this basic course, persons who perform jobs that require a high education can be provided with additional 100 hours of the Serbian language during one school year.</p> <p>b) Persons enrolled in the regular education system in the Republic of Serbia (i.e. pupils) are provided with 140 school hours of the Serbian language during one school year in addition to the regular classes of Serbian language in schools.</p> <p>c) Persons older than 65 years are provided with 200 school hours of the Serbian language during one school year.</p> <p>7. There is not different type of courses. Only deference is duration (number of classes) as described in Q6.</p> <p>8. YES</p> <p>9. There are two types of language courses: a) traditional form of teaching (attending Serbian language lessons in person) b) online teaching (attending Serbian language classes via an internet platform or mobile apps). It is defined by the contract with certified school (service provider).</p>
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	<p><b>EMN NCP Slovakia</b></p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>1. There are no language requirements to third country nationals applying for or already those being granted any type of residence permit (temporary, permanent, long-term) in the Slovak Republic . There is only language proficiency test required as part of the citizenship application process, however no systematic language preparatory courses are provided by the state. As for the beneficiaries of international protection, if they enter the integration program, it also includes the language classes (which the beneficiaries do not pay for).  More information also on language courses (as a common course provided usually together with civic orientation) is provided in our response to AHQ 2023.54 on Implementation of measures for civic orientation courses/trainings as an important tool for the integration of third-country nationals.</p> <p>2. NA</p> <p>3. NA</p> <p>4. NA</p> <p>5. NA</p> <p>6. NA</p>
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			<p>7. NA</p> <p>8. NA</p> <p>9. See response to AHQ 2023.54 on Implementation of measures for civic orientation courses/trainings as an important tool for the integration of third-country nationals.</p>
	EMN NCP Slovenia	Yes	<p>1. Yes for certain categories of third-country nationals. See reply to Q2.</p> <p>2. The condition of knowledge of the Slovenian language is prescribed:</p> <p>a) In the process of extending a temporary residence permit for an adult family member in accordance with the Family reunification Directive 2003/86/EC, namely, the family member must meet the condition of language proficiency at a subsistence level, which the Foreigners Act defines as basic communication in the Slovenian language, limited to simple, predictable, everyday situations in which the expression is routine and repetitive, whereby the minister responsible for education determines the criteria for the educational program, including standards of knowledge, which are verified by a mandatory test of knowledge of the Slovenian language at a subsistence level (criteria are available at: <a href="https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=PRAV15286">https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=PRAV15286</a>).</p>

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			<p>The family member proves that the condition is met by submitting a certificate of successfully passing a test of knowledge of the Slovenian language at a subsistence level. The mandatory test of knowledge of the Slovenian language at a subsistence level is carried out by educational institutions or organizations that run informal educational programs for adults to learn the Slovenian language. Providers of informal educational programs for adults to learn the Slovenian language issue a certificate of enrollment in the program to the participant. It is considered that an adult family member meets the condition of knowledge of the Slovene language at a survival level, if he submits a certificate of successfully passing an exam in the knowledge of Slovene on at least the entry level, as determined by the CEFR, if he is accepted into publicly valid educational or study programs in of the Republic of Slovenia, which are carried out in the Slovenian language and enable the acquisition of publicly valid education, or has completed schooling at any level in the Republic of Slovenia or has completed primary or secondary school with the Slovenian language of instruction in areas where members of the indigenous Slovenian national community live in the neighboring countries, or if he is over 60 years old. The condition of knowledge of the Slovene language at a subsistence level is also met by an adult family member who is illiterate, but communicates in Slovenian, which is proven by a certificate of successfully passing an exam in spoken communication in Slovene at a subsistence level. The condition of knowledge of the Slovene language at a subsistence level does not have to be met by an adult family member in the cases referred to in the fourth sentence of the first paragraph of the Article 47 of the Foreigners Act, and by an adult family member who is unable to pass the exam in the required format due to health impairments that prevent communication. Proof of the fulfillment of this condition in the case of the claimed actual state of inability to take the exam is carried out with an expert. The costs arising from the implementation of this proof are the burden of the foreigner.</p> <p>b) In the process of issuing a permanent residence permit in accordance with the Long-term Directive 2003/109/EC, namely the TCN must meet the condition of knowledge of the Slovenian language at the basic level (A2 according to CEFR), whereby the Government determines the criteria for the</p>
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		<p>educational program, on the basis of which a mandatory test of knowledge of the Slovenian language at the basic level is carried out.</p> <p>It is considered that a foreigner fulfills the condition of knowledge of the Slovenian language at the basic level, if he is accepted into publicly valid educational or study programs in the Republic of Slovenia, which are conducted in the Slovenian language and enable the acquisition of a publicly valid education, or if he has completed schooling at any level in the Republic in Slovenia or has completed primary or secondary school with the Slovenian language of instruction in areas where members of the indigenous Slovenian national community live in neighboring countries, or if he is over 60 or under 18. The condition of knowledge of the Slovenian language at the basic level is also met by a foreigner who is illiterate, but communicates in Slovenian, which is proven by a certificate of successfully passing an exam in spoken communication in Slovenian at the basic level. The requirement of knowledge of the Slovenian language at the basic level does not need to be met by a foreigner who can be issued a permanent residence permit before the expiry of five years of continuous legal residence in the Republic of Slovenia, and by a foreigner who, due to health impairments that prevent everyday communication, is unable to pass the required exam form. Proof of the fulfillment of this condition in the case of the claimed actual state of inability to take the exam is carried out with an expert. The costs arising from the implementation of this proof are the burden of the foreigner.</p> <p>3. As per Article 2 of the Decree on the provision of assistance for the integration of non-EU nationals (hereinafter: Decree) the following third-country nationals are entitled to a free one-off participation in the Initial integration of immigrants programme, which includes the Slovenian language course and civic course: Third-country nationals who: - are residing in the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of a permanent residence permit;</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- are residing in the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of a temporary residence permit valid for at least one year;</li> <li>- are family members of Slovenian or EU citizens residing in the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of a residence permit for a family member, irrespective of the length of residence and the length of validity of the temporary residence permit;</li> <li>- are residing in the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of temporary protection granted under the law regulating temporary protection of displaced persons.</li> </ul> <p>Starting with May 2024, a subsistence level Slovenian language learning programme will be implemented as a non-formal educational programme for adults in accordance with the legislation governing adult education. Family members of third-country nationals who have been issued with a temporary residence permit for the purpose of family reunification shall be entitled to attend the non-formal programme free of charge on a one-off basis.</p> <p>4. A1 to A2, depending on the homogeneity of the group and their knowledge of related languages.</p> <p>5. Content of the courses by modules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction</li> <li>2. Personal identity (greetings and presentation of yourself, my life, work and personal interests)</li> <li>3. Housing (apartment, renting)</li> <li>4. Economy (ordering food and drinks, shopping)</li> <li>5. Work and profession (looking for a job, at the work, different professions)</li> <li>6. Health and social welfare (health and hygiene, children health, social security)</li> <li>7. Education (pre-education, life-long learning, education for children)</li> <li>8. Public life in Slovenia (public institutions, services, social life)</li> </ol>
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			<p>9. Environment (plants and animals, time and weather, spatial orientation, traffic) 10. Slovene culture, history and tradition (geography and history in brief, slovene culture and cultural institutions, Slovene traditions and holidays, political system).</p> <p>6. The course lasts for 180 hours. If the participant at the end of the course does not achieve the expected learning outcomes, they can attend 60 more hours.</p> <p>7. Until 15 May 2024, third-country nationals are provided only with one course – “Introductory integration in Slovenian society”. After that date, a subsistence level Slovenian language learning programme will also be available as a non-formal educational programme for family members of third-country nationals. Educational institution has to test each candidate before starting a course and create as homogenic groups as possible by the level of their knowledge before the course.</p> <p>8. Until 15 May 2024, third-country nationals can attend the exam for free if their course attendance of the state-provided course is 80%. If they pass the exam, the responsible institution issues them a certificate. After May 15 2024 third-country nationals can attend the exam without participating in the programmes provided by the state.</p> <p>9. If refugees can not attend the Slovenian language course and civic course in person (because of health conditions, distance or other personal issues) they can attend the online language course. Participants also have access to e-learning platforms provided by the educational institution.</p>
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	<b>EMN NCP Spain</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No.</li> <li>2. Non applicable</li> <li>3. Non applicable</li> <li>4. Non applicable</li> <li>5. Non applicable</li> <li>6. Non applicable</li> <li>7. Non applicable</li> <li>8. Non applicable</li> <li>9. Non applicable</li> </ol>
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 <b>EMN NCP Sweden</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. No. However, in June 2022 the Swedish Government appointed a special investigator tasked with proposing requirements for Swedish language skills and civics to be granted permanent residence permit. The aim is to promote integration and an inclusive society where individuals are empowered and increase their opportunities to actively participate in society. The Official Report of the Swedish Government proposes to introduce a requirement for Swedish language skills and society to be eligible for permanent residence permits. It is suggested that the knowledge requirement takes effect in July 2027.</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. An individual is eligible to participate in "Swedish For Immigrants" (SFI) from the second half of the calendar year in which s/he turn 16 years old. This applies if the person is a resident in Sweden and lacks the basic Swedish language skills that the education aims to provide. Since August 2023, individuals who have fled the war in Ukraine have had the opportunity to study SFI. The course is free of charge. The course "Civic orientation" are free of charge and is offered to people who have recently been granted a residence permit. Other qualification is to have an introduction programme from the Swedish Public Employment Service or if the person is a next-of-kin immigrant. Both SFI and the civic course are mandatory for individuals granted residency on protection grounds who are unable to make themselves a living. For asylum seekers the Swedish Migration Agency provide a mandatory civic course "social introduction". It includes information about the asylum process and what rights and obligations you have as an asylum seeker. It also includes information about what it is like to live in Sweden and about</p>
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		<p>laws, rules, norms and values in Sweden. The social introduction is mandatory for anyone aged 15 and older who applies for asylum in Sweden. That means that you cannot opt out of it. If you become ill or have other obstacles that prevent you from being able to come, you must notify the Swedish Migration Agency. It's free of charge. The SFI course is not available for asylum seekers. Additionally, there are study associations and folk high schools that provide study circles or courses in Swedish and civic education for asylum seekers. These entail group sessions where individuals learn Swedish collectively under the guidance of a teacher or facilitator. Several universities offer college preparatory courses in the Swedish language. These courses are open to individuals who hold high school qualifications from abroad and require a deeper understanding of the Swedish language to attain basic proficiency for academic studies. Additionally, third-country nationals are required to pay a fee of approximately 100 Euros. The courses can be pursued on either a full-time or part-time basis, and digital learning options are available. However, the final examination must be undertaken in Sweden at the university. Participants also have the opportunity to sit for a test to obtain a certificate, subject to a fee of approximately 200 Euros. Applicants for these courses should already possess proficiency in Swedish, equivalent to at least level B2 or C1 according to the CEFR.</p> <p>4. CEFR as a complete system is not used within the Swedish educational system.</p> <p>5. Education goals and characteristics through instruction in municipal adult education in "Swedish for immigrants" (SFI), the student shall be provided with opportunities to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• their ability to read and write Swedish,</li> <li>• their ability to speak, listen, and converse in Swedish,</li> <li>• their ability to understand spoken and written Swedish,</li> <li>• their ability to adapt language for different purposes, recipients, and situations,</li> </ul>
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- good pronunciation,
- insights into language learning,
- learning, reading, and communication strategies for their continued language development,
- their ability to use digital technology and relevant tools for learning and communication, and
- their ability to relate to information from various sources.

The civic orientation course is provided in different languages and in easy-to-understand Swedish. The course is organised by the municipality where the person live. The course includes sections on human rights, fundamental democratic values, rights and obligations, how Swedish society is organized and practical everyday life. The purpose is to learn about the individuals rights and obligation, about Swedish democracy and about how Swedish society is organised. The course is also about practical everyday life, including issues to do with work and education, housing, health and medical care, and children and families.

6.

The duration of the course depends on the level you are at. For more information about levels, see question 7.

The duration of the Civic Orientation Course is at least 100 hours.

7.

Within SFI, there are four courses (A, B, C and D) and three study tracks (1, 2 and 3). All study tracks are coherent and adapted to the target group. Study track 1 is directed at students who have a short or no school background. Within study track 1, there are the courses A, B, C and D. Study track 2 is directed at students whose school background is less extensive than the equivalent of Swedish upper-secondary school. Within study track 2, the students take the courses B, C and D. Study track 3 is for the students whose school background is equivalent to Swedish upper-secondary school or who has participated in university studies. Within study track 3, there are the courses C and D.

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			<p>8. No certificate is provided for the language course SFI. For the civic orientation course the person will receive a certificate after the course is completed.</p> <p>9. No. However, there are private providers and County Administrative Board that offer online language education.</p>
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