



**Integration of Migrant Women in the EU and Norway:
Policies and Measures
– contribution of the Slovak Republic**

EMN Study – Questionnaire Form
January 2022



This study was prepared within the activities of the European Migration Network (EMN) which provides up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information on migration and asylum in order to support policymaking in EU and its Member States. EMN is funded by the European Union and the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

EMN activities are focused on topics related to migration of third-country nationals. The activities are implemented through national contact points in all EU Member States, Georgia, Moldova and Norway in coordination with the European Commission (Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs).

Elaboration of the study was conducted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) as the coordinator of the EMN National Contact Point for the Slovak Republic. The Slovak EMN National Contact Point comprises of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic (the Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium, the Migration Office, the Department of Foreign and European Affairs of the Office of the Minister of Interior), the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic (the Department of International Relations and European Affairs), the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic (the Section of Social Statistics and Demography) and IOM.

This study – in the form of questionnaire - was produced with the financial assistance by the European Union. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union. Equally, the opinions presented herein do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Government of the Slovak Republic or of the IOM.

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Except for the questionnaire specification, the text of the study is an unofficial translation prepared by IOM as the coordinator of the EMN National Contact Point for the Slovak Republic provided for reference only. In the event of any ambiguity about the meaning of certain translated terms or of any discrepancy between the Slovak version and the translation, the Slovak version shall prevail. Users are advised to consult the original Slovak language version of the study.

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Preface

The study aims to understand if and to what extent EU Member States and Norway consider the distinct situation of migrant women in their integration policies and measures. The main objectives are (i) to map current national integration policies in the EU Member States and Norway that specifically target women; (ii) to provide examples of good practices and lessons learnt on integration measures for migrant women at the national but also regional or local level; (iii) to make an overview of special policies or measures that have been developed to counteract the negative consequences of COVID-19 for migrant women's integration. The study provide also overview of available national research and statistics related to integration opportunities and challenges of migrant women. Information on policies, measures and research cover the period 2016 – 2021. Statistical data cover the period 2016 – 2020.

The study focuses on the integration of migrant women in the main sectoral areas addressed by the Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027¹ including education and training, employment and skills, or health and housing as a basis for integration into society.

The study also analyzes those policies and measures that do not exclusively target female third-country nationals, but which include them as part of a wider target group (e.g. women in general or migrant women in general, which may also include EU citizens with a migrant background).

The study targets mainly policymakers are interested in addressing the specific situation of migrant women in their integration policy as well as researchers, who may use the findings as a starting point for more in-depth research of the integration of migrant women, such as at the local and regional level. Also, the study is of interest to the general public, raising awareness on gender-specific integration issues.

This study defines a migrant woman

- as a third-country national female migrant (i.e. a regularly residing female migrant aged 18 and above) for the purpose of policy analysis; and
- as a female third-country national for the purpose of data analysis.

The study uses the terms *migrant*, *non-EU migrant*, *migrant from outside the EU* and *third-country national* synonymously. The term (*female*) *foreigner* has the meaning in accordance with the national law of the Slovak Republic. It means any person who is not a national of the Slovak Republic, i.e. includes EU/EEA and third-country nationals. If the study mentions *migration of women*, it means, according to the given context, either the migration of women with the nationality of countries outside the EU/EEA or the migration of foreign women in general. Wherever the text foreigner, migrant and third-country national is used in the text, based on suitability and appropriateness it means both male and female.

Methodology of this study is based mainly on secondary research and on data and statistics obtained from the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic (Bureau of Border and Foreign Police, Migration Office), the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic. Eurostat statistics, materials, publications and websites of other state, international and non-governmental institutions were also important sources. The report also draws on several EMN Slovakia publications.

In this study, identification of an integration measure as a “good practice” utilises the European Website on Integration guidance where a good practice is defined as a measure that is “effective, efficient, sustainable and/or transferable, and that reliably lead[s] to a desired result”.² Furthermore, for the purpose of this study, an integration measure can additionally be considered “good” if it applies the concepts of gender-sensitivity or intersectionality. The selection of the measure should be made by an expert working in the field (e.g. policy maker; service provider; civil society organisation; migrant organisations) or based on studies or evaluations.³

Based on the questionnaires from each EU Member State and Norway, the European Commission prepares a synthesis report covering the main findings. The questionnaire form of the study from the Slovak Republic

¹ European Commission, 'EU Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027', COM(2020) 758 final, available at: <https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/?action=media.download&uuid=CDFE0088-C151-66D5-846F7C422DE2A423>

² Source: European Commission, 'European Website on Integration – What are 'good practices'?', 2014, <https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/index.cfm?action=furl.go&go=/what-are-good-practices> (consulted on 27. 9. 2021).

³ Source: The common study specifications, available at https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/whats-new/publications/integration-migrant-women-eu-and-norway-policies-and-measures_en (consulted on 16. 12. 2021).

in Slovak and English language and the synthesis report are available on the Slovak EMN National Contact Point website www.emn.sk.

List of Abbreviations

AMIF – Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

BBFP PFP – Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium

EC – European Commission

EMN – European Migration Network

Eurostat – statistical office of the European Union

EU – European Union

IOM – International Organization for Migration

MoI SR – Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic

SR – Slovak Republic

Coll. – Collection of laws of the SR

Summary

The “Integration of Migrant Women in the EU and Norway: Policies and Measures” study by the European Migration Network (EMN) was selected by the EMN Steering Board as part of the 2021 working programme. Each EU Member State and Norway elaborates its own study based on a common specifications – the questions listed further in the document. This questionnaire format of the study contains six chapters including analysis of selected statistics collected at national level or by Eurostat. Information in the study for the Slovak Republic cover period from 2016 till the end of 2021, statistics cover the years 2016 – 2020.

This study defines a migrant woman

- as a third-country national female migrant (i.e. a regularly residing female migrant aged 18 and above) for the purpose of policy analysis; and
- as a female third-country national for the purpose of data analysis.

The study uses the terms *migrant*, *non-EU migrant*, *migrant from outside the EU* and *third-country national* synonymously. The term (*female*) *foreigner* has the meaning in accordance with the national law of the Slovak Republic. It means any person who is not a national of the Slovak Republic, i.e. includes EU/EEA and third-country nationals. If the study mentions *migration of women*, it means, according to the given context, either the migration of women with the nationality of countries outside the EU/EEA or the migration of foreign women in general. Wherever the text *foreigner*, *migrant* and *third-country national* is used in the text, based on suitability and appropriateness it means both male and female.

Methodology of this study is based mainly on secondary research and on data and statistics obtained from the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic (Bureau of Border and Foreign Police), the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic. Eurostat statistics, materials, publications and websites of other state, international and non-governmental institutions were also important sources. The report also draws on several EMN Slovakia publications.

The first chapter analyses basic data and maps debates among experts and policy-makers about situation of migrant women integration in Slovakia.

Apart from the statistics on employment, studies, valid residences and granted state citizenships, the Slovak Republic does not collect or does not have available data on migrants broken down by sex. No institution or expert carried out research on the integration of migrant women in Slovakia in the years 2016-2020. The last research publications on this topic were published in 2009 and 2011.

According to Eurostat data, the population of Slovakia was just over 5,400,000 in the last five years, of which about half were women (see Q2, Table 3). The share of foreigners - both EU and non-EU nationals - in the total population of Slovakia has been low in a long term and in 2020 represented 2.75%. Of the stated number of foreigners, nationals from countries outside the EU make up approximately 1.7% of the total population of Slovakia (see Q2, Table 4).⁴

As data on the number of migrant women are not publicly available, Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium stated for the purposes of this study that at the end of 2020 Slovakia recorded

⁴ Source: <https://iom.sk/sk/migracia/migracia-na-slovensku.html> (consulted on 27. 9. 2021).

53,278 women (36%) out of 150,012 foreigners with a valid stay. The number of migrant women from non-EU countries in that period was 33,035, which is a similar 36% share of all migrants from non-EU countries with legal residence. In 2020, migrant women from non-EU countries made up 0.60% of the Slovak population (see Q2, Table 4).⁵

According to the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, over the last five years, migrant women from non-EU countries have accounted for a quarter of all employed foreigners from non-EU countries (see Table 6). Most employed migrant women on the Slovak labour market come from Ukraine and Serbia.⁶

Statistics on the first residence permits and nationalities of migrant women in the Slovak Republic are not available.⁷ Citizens of Ukraine, Serbia and Russia are among the most numerous groups of migrants from non-EU countries who obtained their first residence permits in 2016-2020. Out of them, according to an estimate provided by Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium, female nationals of Ukraine and Serbia accounted for less than a third and female nationals of Russia for less than half in 2019 (see Q1, Table 2).

The COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 had an impact on the hitherto growing migration from non-EU countries to Slovakia, which was dominated by labour migration. The first residence permits in the Slovak Republic in 2020 decreased by 7% compared to 2019 from 28,836 to 18,251 (see Q1, Table 1).⁸ Specific analyses on the impact of the pandemic on women's migration were not carried out in Slovakia.

In 2016 – 2020, the topic of the migrant women integration did not become the subject of public or political discussion in Slovakia and was not part of any debates over draft policies or laws.⁹ In November 2021, the non-profit sector initiated a public discussion about situation of migrant women and their gender equality in Slovakia, whose aim was to launch expert discussion on importance of addressing this topic. According to the experts present at the seminar, Slovak Republic lacks quality data and information on migrant women, and the topic is not present in the public policies and targeted activities for this group of residents in Slovakia.¹⁰

The very absence of collection or unavailability of such data and research thus represents a main challenge for the Slovak Republic in the future preparation and framing of possible policies and measures aimed at (also) the integration of migrant women or the inclusion of this topic in sectoral policies.

The second chapter describes organisation and management of the Slovak Republic's integration policy, and analyses how migrant women are addressed in specific national integration policies.

The situation of migrant women in Slovakia was not a priority in the years 2016 - 2021 when creating policies, laws, measures or project calls. In general, the Slovak Republic does not have targeted or sectoral policies and strategies that would address specific areas of integration of migrant women from non-EU countries.

Integration policy of the Slovak Republic is created at national level and is in the competence of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, which also coordinates Interministerial Expert Commission for Labour Migration and Integration of Foreigners (MEKOMIC). The integration of beneficiaries of international protection is ensured mainly by the Migration Office of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with a non-governmental organisation¹¹ through the AMIF fund projects.

Migrant women are specifically mentioned in two strategic documents:

The *Integration Policy of the Slovak Republic* from 2014 refers to migrant women and to the principle of gender perspective only in the context of vulnerability, domestic violence or as part of a population at risk of poverty or social exclusion. *The Strategy of Labour Mobility of Foreigners in the Slovak Republic* highlights

⁵ Questionnaire filled by the Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium.

⁶ Source: Statistics by the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family 2016 – 2020 (Tables 1 and 11). Available at: https://www.upsvr.gov.sk/statistiky/zamestnavanie-cudzincov-statistiky.html?page_id=10803 (consulted on 25. 10. 2021).

⁷ Source: Eurostat (migr_resfas, migr_resoth) and EMN Annual Reports on Migration and Asylum in the Slovak Republic in 2016 – 2020.

⁸ Source: EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum in the Slovak Republic in 2020, available at: <https://emn.sk/sk/publikacie/vyrocne-spravy-emn-o-migracii-a-azyle.html> (consulted on 16. 12. 2021).

⁹ Source: IOM Slovakia's media monitoring for years 2016 – 2020.

¹⁰ Source: <https://www.hri.sk/sk/o-nas/aktuality/neviditelne-zeny--rodova-rovnost-v-oblasti-migracie-a-integracie-migrantiek-na-slovensku> (consulted on 26. 11. 2021).

¹¹ At the time of writing, the Migration Office cooperated with the non-governmental organisation Slovak Humanitarian Council on the integration of persons with international protection.

specific problems of migrant women, i.e. their invisibility and recognizes that women are still disadvantaged more than men in the working life.

There are no specific measures or tools implemented in the Slovak Republic designed exclusively for migrant women. The services that can be used in Slovakia by women from non-EU countries are in principle identical to the services provided to men from non-EU countries. Integration services identified in the context of the study specifications are from the field of labour market integration. Like migrant men, women from non-EU countries who have long-term residence in Slovakia, asylum, subsidiary protection, temporary protection, or are family members of EU citizens, have through labour offices access to the so-called employment services. Employment services are, however, provided only in the Slovak language, which can form a practical obstacle in their use.

The third chapter looks at available funding of the programmes and projects, and provides examples of integration measures targeting migrant women living in Slovakia that have been identified as a good practice.

Migrant women in Slovakia were not the exclusive target group of projects of the Fund for Asylum, Migration and Integration (AMIF) or the Operational Programme Human Resources 2014 - 2020.¹² Within the AMIF projects, migrant women were included in the so-called vulnerable groups, whom, based on an assessment of individual needs, they may be provided with project support for a longer period.

In 2016 - 2020, no systematic initiatives, projects or legislative measures were implemented in the Slovak Republic, which in accordance with the methodology of this questionnaire could be described as good practice aimed at migrant women from non-EU countries.¹³ The civic sector and international organisations in Slovakia in the given period focused in their projects on migrant women from non-EU countries sporadically, or they were part of activities aimed at migrants in general.

The fourth chapter examines what changes occurred in integration policies or measures for migrant women in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, the Slovak Republic did not implement any integration policies or measures which would be specifically aimed at mitigating negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrant women from non-EU countries.

The fifth chapter focuses on planned policies and measures related to migrant women. In 2021, the Slovak Republic approved two strategic documents covering the whole or part of the area of migration. *The Migration Policy of the Slovak Republic with a View till 2025* does not specifically cover the integration of migrant women from non-EU countries.¹⁴ *The Recovery and Resilience Plan for Slovakia for the Years 2021 - 2027*¹⁵ also lacks an explicit orientation towards migrant women. Activities under the forthcoming *Operational Programme Slovakia 2021-2027* focus on migrants and their family members in general (priority: Active inclusion and accessible services, specific objective: Support for the socio-economic integration of third-country nationals).

The final **sixth chapter** compiles the main findings of the study for the Slovak Republic which are described above.

Section 1: Integration of migrant women – data and debates

The study will start by providing some background information on the immigration channels of migrant women in the EU Member States and Norway as well as key integration indicators in order to understand the current situation and which integration opportunities and challenges are affecting migrant women in the EU Member States and Norway.

Q1 Please analyse the data on first residence titles issued by reason in 2016–2020 in your country as extracted from Eurostat and included in the statistical Annex (see Annex 1.1) and describe the main forms of immigration used by third-country migrant women compared to third-country migrant men. What are the top 3 countries of citizenship in the period of 2016-2020? Did any significant changes occur in 2020 that might be related to COVID-19?

¹² Questionnaire filled by the Foreign Aid Department of the European Programmes Section of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic and by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

¹³ Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

¹⁴ Source: <https://rokovania.gov.sk/RVL/Material/26387/1> (consulted on 7.10.2021).

¹⁵ Available at: <https://www.planobnovy.sk/> (consulted on 1.11.2021).

Statistics on the first residence permits and nationalities of migrant women in the Slovak Republic are not available.¹⁶ Citizens of Ukraine, Serbia and Russia are among the most numerous groups of migrants from non-EU countries who obtained their first residence permits in 2016-2020. Out of them, according to an estimate provided by Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium, female nationals of Ukraine and Serbia accounted for less than a third and female nationals of Russia for less than half in 2019 (see Table 2).

The COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 had an impact on the hitherto growing migration from non-EU countries to Slovakia, which was dominated by labour migration. The first residence permits in the Slovak Republic in 2020 decreased by 7% compared to 2019 from 28,836 to 18,251 (see Table 1). This decrease is related to the restriction of the movement of persons and other measures introduced in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁷ Specific analyses on the impact of the pandemic on women's migration were not carried out in Slovakia.

Table 1: First residence permits of migrants from countries outside the EU in the Slovak Republic in 2016 – 2020

	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Total	Out of which females	Total	Out of which females	Total	Out of which females	Total	Out of which females	Total	Out of which females
Family reasons	2,607	:	2,620	:	2,902	:	3,559	:	2,901	:
Education and study	1,792	:	1,986	:	2,324	:	2,955	:	2,332	:
Remunerated activities	3,599	:	7,399	:	13,956	:	20,890	:	12,077	:
Other reasons	2,306	:	1,630	:	1,807	:	1,507	:	941	:
Total	10,304	:	13,635	:	20,989	:	28,911	:	18,251	:

Source: EMN Annual Reports on Migration and Asylum in the Slovak Republic in 2016-2020.

(:) - not available (not collected)

Table 2: The most numerous groups of migrants from countries outside the EU who obtained their first residence permits in the Slovak Republic in 2016 - 2020

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
The most numerous groups of migrants from countries outside the EU who obtained first residence permits in the Slovak Republic	1. Ukraine (3,016) 2. Serbia (2,076) 3. Russia (753)	1. Ukraine (4,268) 2. Serbia (4,140) 3. Vietnam (1,114)	1. Ukraine (10,584) 2. Serbia (4,834) 3. Russia (716)	1. Ukraine (16,670) 2. Serbia (4,290) 3. Russia (1,810)	1. Ukraine (10,017) 2. Serbia (2,300) 3. Russia (1,541)
Out of which share of women*	:	:	:	1. Ukraine 30% 2. Serbia 28% 3. Russia 49%	:

Source: Eurostat ([migr_resfas](#), [migr_resoth](#)) from 23. 9. 2021.

Eurostat ([migr_resfirst](#)) from 14. 1. 2022.

Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium (estimate on the share of women).

¹⁶ Source: Eurostat ([migr_resfas](#), [migr_resoth](#)) and EMN Annual Reports on Migration and Asylum in the Slovak Republic in 2016 – 2020.

¹⁷ Source: EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum in the Slovak Republic in 2020, available at: <https://emn.sk/sk/publikacie/vyrocne-spravy-emn-o-migracii-a-azyle.html> (consulted on 16. 12. 2021).

(:) - not available (not collected)

* Sex breakdown is not available. The data provided for 2019 were processed on an ad-hoc basis as an estimate based on national statistics.

Q2 Please analyse the data on population in 2016–2020 as extracted from Eurostat and included in the statistical Annex (see Annex 1.2) and describe the share of third-country national migrant women among the total population compared to third-country national migrant men. Please include any evidence for changes related to COVID-19 if available.

According to Eurostat data, the population of Slovakia was just over 5,400,000 in the last five years, of which about half were women (see Table 3).

Table 3: Population in the Slovak Republic according to sex in 2016 – 2020

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Population in Slovakia	5,426,252	5,435,343	5,443,120	5,450,421	5,457,873
Female population in Slovakia	2,780,170 (51.24%)	2,783,659 (51.21%)	2,786,606 (51.20%)	2,789,344 (51.18%)	2,792,523 (51.17%)

Source: Eurostat ([migr_pop1ctz](#)) from 23. 9. 2021.

Note: The data in the table always depict the situation as of 1 January.

The share of foreigners - both EU and non-EU nationals - in the total population of Slovakia has been low in a long term and in 2020 represented 2.75% (i.e. approximately 150,000 foreigners). Of the stated number of foreigners, nationals from countries outside the EU make up approximately 1.7% of the total population of Slovakia (see Table 4).¹⁸

The number of foreigners living in Slovakia in the years 2016 - 2020 and their share in the total population is constantly growing, while the pandemic in 2020 slowed down this increase. As data on the number of migrant women are not publicly available, Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium stated for the purposes of this study that at the end of 2020 Slovakia recorded 53,278 women (36%) out of 150,012 foreigners with a valid stay. The number of migrant women from non-EU countries in that period was 33,035, which is a similar 36% share of all migrants from non-EU countries with legal residence. In 2020, migrant women from non-EU countries made up 0.60% of the Slovak population (see Table 4).¹⁹

Table 4: Foreigners with legal residence in the Slovak Republic in 2016 – 2020

	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Total	Out of which females	Total	Out of which females	Total	Out of which females	Total	Out of which females	Total	Out of which females
Foreigners in the Slovak Republic	93,247	37%	104,451	37%	121,264	43,133 (36%)	143,075	36%	150,012	53,278 (36%)
Out of which migrants from countries outside the EU	41,232 (44.22%)	42%	50,395 (48.25%)	20,234 (40%)	65,381 (53.92%)	24,385 (37%)	85,827 (59.99%)	30,771 (36%)	90,806 (60.53%)	33,035 (36%)
Share of migrants from countries outside the EU on total	0.76%	0.32%	0.93%	0.37%	1.20%	0.45%	1.57%	0.56%	1.66%	0.60%

¹⁸ Source: <https://iom.sk/sk/migracia/migracia-na-slovensku.html> (consulted on 27. 9. 2021).

¹⁹ Questionnaire filled by the Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium.

number of residents in Slovakia										
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Source: Yearbooks of the Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium (BBFP PFP) 2016 – 2020, estimates of the BBFP PFP provided upon request, and EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum in the Slovak Republic in 2020.

Note: If only % data is given in the table, numerical data were not available and the given % is an estimate calculated by the BBFP PFP as a combination of several statistical reports and lists.

Eurostat population statistics on the number of (female) migrants from outside the EU provide data on persons who had their usual residence in Slovakia²⁰. For this purpose, the Slovak Republic reports data on the number of permanent residences of foreigners living in Slovakia to Eurostat²¹. The stated numbers therefore do not represent the total number of foreigners, including migrant women living in Slovakia (see Table 5).

Table 5: Migrants and migrant women from non-EU countries in the Slovak Republic in 2016 – 2020 (permanent residences)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Migrants from non-EU countries in Slovakia	13,901	14,687	15,439	16,313	17,132
Out of which females and their share	6,426 (46.23%)	6,768 (46.08%)	7,110 (46.05%)	7,508 (46.02%)	7,847 (45.80%)

Source: Eurostat ([migr_pop1ctz](#)) from 23. 9. 2021.

Note: The data in the table always depict the situation as of 1 January.

Q3 Please analyse the data on labour market, entrepreneurship, education, housing and health indicators in 2016–2020 as extracted from Eurostat and included in the statistical Annex (see Annex 1.3) and describe the main findings with specific focus on third-country national migrant women compared to third-country national migrant men and non-migrant women. Did any significant changes occur in 2020 that might be related to COVID-19?

The Slovak Republic does not report statistics on employment, entrepreneurship, unemployment rates, education, accommodation or health indicators for migrant women from non-EU countries at the Eurostat

²⁰ Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection defines usual residence in its Article 1 b) as "the place at which a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage or, in default, the place of legal or registered residence". In the letter c) the immigration is subsequently defined as "the action by which a person establishes his or her usual residence in the territory of a Member State for a period that is, or is expected to be, of at least 12 months, having previously been usually resident in another Member State or a third country". Available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/SK/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32007R0862&from=EN> (consulted on 17. 1. 2022).

²¹ Statistical data on migration, which are collected, processed and provided by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic, are based on statistical reports on changes in permanent residence (i.e. permanent address). Migration data collection is carried out using the individual statistical forms "Movement Report (OBYV 5-12)". The report is filled in obligatorily for each person in case of change of permanent residence by immigration from another municipality of the Slovak Republic or from abroad, or when moving abroad upon the end of permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic. The reporting units are the residence units of the municipal and city offices, in the case of foreigners it is the foreign police.

level^{22,23} As part of the Labour Force Survey (LFS), the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic implemented ad hoc modules on the topic "Migrants" in 2008, 2014 and 2021. The results for the 2021 ad hoc module "Labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants" will be available on the Eurostat website in the second half of 2022.²⁴

Labour market

Slovakia, however, collects statistics at the national level on employed migrants from non-EU countries, also broken down by gender. The statistics are publicly available on the website of the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family (COLSAF).²⁵

The total number of employed foreigners in the Slovak Republic has increased more than twentyfold since its accession to the EU - from 3,351 in 2004 to 69,012 in December 2020, of which 39,075 were non-EU nationals. In 2020, the most numerous groups of employees were nationals of Ukraine (19,578) and Serbia (10,174).²⁶

According to the COLSAF, over the last five years, migrant women from non-EU countries have accounted for a quarter of all employed foreigners from non-EU countries (see Table 6). Most employed migrant women on the Slovak labour market come from Ukraine and Serbia.²⁷

Table 6: Migrants and migrant women from non-EU countries employed in the Slovak Republic in 2016 – 2020

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Migrants from non-EU countries employed in Slovakia	11,036	21,752	32,851	46,184	39,075
Out of which females and their share	2,951 (26.74%)	5,333 (24.52%)	7,955 (24.22%)	11,806 (25.56%)	10,643 (27.24%)

Source: Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family.

Note: The data in the table always depict the situation as of 31 December.

Education

Statistics on the education of foreigners (students and graduates) are collected and processed also by sex by the Center for Scientific and Technical Information (CVTI), which are available on request.²⁸

Analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on working and studying migrant women in Slovakia was not elaborated.

Q4 What are the key opportunities and challenges for migrant women's integration as identified in national statistical sources (e.g. integration monitors, census, administrative data) or available research (e.g. surveys among migrant women)?

For each challenge please:

²² The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic conducts sample surveys on households - Survey on Income and Living Conditions of Households (EU SILC), Labour Force Sample Survey (LFS), Income, Expenditure and Consumption of Private Households (HBS), European Health Interview Survey (EHIS), Survey on the Use of Information and Communication Technologies among households and individuals (ICT). In these surveys the Statistical Office continuously includes harmonized core "variables" as required by the EU regulations. The aim of the above surveys is the regular collection and processing of information on persons living in private households on the basis of a harmonized European methodological approach. Within the "core variables" of the above-mentioned sample surveys, the sex, citizenship and country of birth of individual household members are also surveyed annually.

According to the internationally valid sample survey methodology, data are collected only in private households. Data on residents (including foreigners) living in collective households (hostels of various kinds) are not collected. The possibility of using processed data from sample surveys for the purpose of integration of foreigners into society is directly influenced by the occurrence of foreigners in the sample, which is, however, usually very low, so the data is unrepresentative (i.e. not applicable due to very low reliability).

²³ Source: Eurostat ([lfsa_urgan](#), [lfsq_argan](#), [lfsa_esgan](#), [edat_lfs_9911](#), [ilc_lvho15](#), [hlth_silc_30](#)) from 23. 9. 2021.

²⁴ Source: Questionnaire filled by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic.

²⁵ Source: https://www.upsvr.gov.sk/statistiky/zamestnavanie-cudzincov-statistiky.html?page_id=10803 (consulted on 25. 10. 2021).

²⁶ Source: <https://iom.sk/sk/migracia/migracia-na-slovensku.html> (consulted on 25. 10. 2021).

²⁷ Source: Statistics by the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family 2016 – 2020 (Tables 1 and 11). Available at: https://www.upsvr.gov.sk/statistiky/zamestnavanie-cudzincov-statistiky.html?page_id=10803 (consulted on 25. 10. 2021).

²⁸ Source: Questionnaire filled by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic and source documents for EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum in the Slovak Republic in 2020.

- a) describe for whom it is a challenge,
- b) indicate why it is mentioned as a challenge, and
- c) indicate the source / evidence for the challenge.

Absence of statistics broken down by gender and of research on migrant women:

a) and b):

Due to the absence of statistics and research on migrant women, it was not possible to identify the main opportunities and challenges of their integration in the Slovak Republic. The very absence of collection or unavailability of such data and research thus represents a main challenge for the Slovak Republic in the future preparation and framing of possible policies and measures aimed at (also) the integration of migrant women or the inclusion of this topic in sectoral policies.

c):

This challenge resulted from the analysis and (un)available data during the preparation of this study²⁹, as well as from the discussion among experts. A public expert seminar was held in 2021, at which experts pointed out, among other things, the lack of quality data on migrant women in Slovakia, which should be the starting point for formulating policies, measures and project challenges (see Q6).

Q5 Are more disaggregated data or research available at national level (compared to what is available through Eurostat), e.g. by resident status/reason for migration, by number of children in households or by first/second generation of migrants?

Yes, the Slovak Republic collects statistics on the employment of foreigners, also broken down by sex (see Q3). According to the sex, data on foreigners with a valid residence (see Q2), on the acquisition of Slovak citizenship³⁰ and on foreigners in the school system and those who have completed their studies in Slovakia are also available on request (see Q3)³¹.

In 2021, the Slovak Republic carried out an electronic census of inhabitants, houses and flats, within which it mapped, among other things, sex, citizenship, country of birth and educational attainment³². At the end of 2021, the first basic results of the census were presented. The processed results are gradually being made available to the public on the website www.scitanie.sk.³³

No institution or expert carried out research on the integration of migrant women in Slovakia in the years 2016-2020.³⁴ In November 2021, an analysis of the status and protection of victims of hate crimes who are refugees and foreigners living in Slovakia was published. *Refugees and migrants as victims of hate crimes - prevention, assistance, protection*³⁵ was prepared by the Islamic Foundation in cooperation with the non-governmental organisation Human Rights League. Among other things, the publication maps the experiences with violence and discrimination against migrant women in the Slovak society.

²⁹ Source: Based on a secondary research.

³⁰ Source: EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum in the Slovak Republic in 2020, available at: <https://emn.sk/sk/publikacie/vyrocne-spravy-emn-o-migracii-a-azyle.html> (consulted on 16. 12. 2021).

³¹ Source: Questionnaire filled by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic and source documents for EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum in the Slovak Republic in 2020.

³² For the population, all variables were surveyed according to Regulation (EC) No. 763/2008 of 9 July 2008 on population and housing censuses, as well as some variables according to national requirements, namely nationality, religion and mother tongue (Act No. 223/2019 Coll. on the Census of Inhabitants, Houses and Flats in Year 2021).

³³ Source: Questionnaire filled by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic.

³⁴ Among the well-known older research publications that have at least partially dealt with this topic in the Slovak context are:

- Matej Blažek, Soňa Andrášová, Nina Paulenová (2014): Skúsenosti migrantov a migrantiek na Slovensku s násilím. IOM Slovakia, Bratislava. Available at: <https://www.iom.sk/sk/aktivity/integracia-migrantov/18-aktivity/integracia-migrantov/uskutocnili-sme-integracia-migrantov/147-vyskum-priciny-formy-a-dosledky-nasilia-na-statnych-prislusnikoch-tretich-krajin-v-sr.html>
- Miroslava Hlinčíková, Martina Sekulová, Daniela Lamačková (2011): Migranti a migrantky na trhu práce v SR – identifikácia a prekonávanie bariér diskriminácie. Inštitút pre verejné otázky, Bratislava. Available at: <https://www.ivo.sk/6414/sk/aktuality/migranti-a-migrantky-na-trhu-prace-v-sr-%E2%80%93-identifikacia-a-prekonavanie-barier-diskriminacie>
- Jarmila Filadelfiová, Martina Sekulová (2009): Migrantky medzi nami. Inštitút pre verejné otázky, Bratislava. Available at: <https://www.ivo.sk/6108/sk/publikacie/migrantky-medzi-nami>

³⁵ Source: <https://www.hrl.sk/sk/co-robime/Kniznica/analyzy-a-pozicne-dokumenty?fbclid=IwAR17qcAlvGzhuM-9tozmOne2SwG-BAq5E1XjklwkTGMmTW2GPI75BY-ym-w> (consulted on 26.11.2021). The analysis was done as part of the project „SalamSK – Bojujeme proti islamofóbie a podporujeme obeť nenávisťných trestných činov“ funded by the EU's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme 2014 – 2020.

Q6 What are the main public and policy debates regarding migrant women's integration (opportunities and challenges)?

In 2016 – 2020, the topic of the migrant women integration did not become the subject of public or political discussion in Slovakia and was not part of any debates over draft policies or laws.³⁶

In November 2021, the non-governmental organisation Human Rights League organised an expert seminar *Invisible Women? Gender equality in the field of migration and integration of migrant women in Slovakia*, which focused on the need to address the situation of migrant women in Slovakia. According to the seminar organisers, the expectations and needs of migrant women in Slovakia are neglected. According to them, Slovakia lacks quality data on migrant women, research and identification of obstacles to the integration of migrant women, specific projects and activities aimed exclusively at migrant women, and the topic is not included in the public policies.³⁷

Section 2: National integration policies in the Member State

This part of the study describes the Member State's organisational approach towards integration policy and analyses how migrant women are addressed in national integration policies.

Q7 Please describe your country's overall organisational approach with regard to integration policy: who are the competent authorities for integration policy? Is integration policy a national, regional, local or shared competency and which responsibilities come with that competency?

In Slovakia, integration policy and its creation is the exclusive competence of the state. The national Integration Policy in relation to foreigners is coordinated by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, which also coordinates Interministerial Expert Commission for Labour Migration and Integration of Foreigners (MEKOMIC). The direct competences of the Ministry of Labour in the field of integration of migrants from outside the EU include employment and social security of this group of persons.

The integration of beneficiaries of international protection is ensured through the AMIF fund projects, which are implemented by the non-governmental organisations. The Migration Office of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic monitors the activities of the integration project³⁸ and cooperates on the integration of beneficiaries of international protection.³⁹

Q8 Is the integration of migrant women a policy priority in your country?

No.

None of the strategic documents, laws or policies defines migrant women as a priority topic in the Slovak Republic. However, the *Manifesto of the Government of the Slovak Republic for the Years 2021 - 2024* generally mentions the topic of reducing inequalities between men and women, combating discrimination against women, leveling the gender pay and pension gap, which arose due to motherhood, or creating more favourable conditions for women's entrepreneurship.⁴⁰

In some documents, migrant women are marginally mentioned or taken into account as part of a group of vulnerable people or as part of migrants in general:

- According to the current *Migration Policy of the Slovak Republic with a View till 2025*, which was approved by the Government of the Slovak Republic in September 2021, one of the priorities is to "ensure systematic regulation of integration of vulnerable groups of foreigners, especially beneficiaries of international protection".⁴¹ According to §2 par. 7 of Act No. 404/2011 Coll. on Residence of Foreigners, a vulnerable person is "in particular, a minor, a person with a disability, a victim of trafficking in human beings, a person over the age of 65, a pregnant woman, a single

³⁶ Source: IOM Slovakia's media monitoring for years 2016 – 2020.

³⁷ Source: <https://www.hrl.sk/sk/o-nas/aktuality/neviditelne-zeny--rodova-rovnost-v-oblasti-migracie-a-integracie-migrantiek-na-slovensku> (consulted on 26. 11. 2021).

³⁸ At the time of writing, the Migration Office cooperated with the non-governmental organisation Slovak Humanitarian Council on the integration of persons with international protection.

³⁹ Source: Organisation of migration and asylum system in the Slovak Republic – Overview, European Migration Network Slovakia, September 2020, available at <https://emn.sk/sk/publikacie/studie-a-policy-briefy-emn/item/571-organizacia-azylovej-a-migracnej-politiky-prehľad-2020.html> (consulted on 19. 10. 2021).

⁴⁰ Source: <https://www.nrsr.sk/web/Dynamic/DocumentPreview.aspx?DocID=494677> (consulted on 23. 10. 2021).

⁴¹ Source: Migration Policy of the Slovak Republic with a View till 2025, p. 8, available at: <https://rokovania.gov.sk/RVL/Material/26387/1> (consulted on 19. 10. 2021).

parent with a minor and a person who has been subjected to torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence...".⁴²

- The current *Integration Policy of the Slovak Republic* from 2014 takes into account the specific factors and risks related to migrant women within the measures to eliminate violence against women. Following up on this, the Integration Policy, in its action plan, creates the conditions⁴³ for providing specific services for vulnerable groups and conditions for strengthening cooperation with existing counseling and supporting services for migrants.⁴⁴
- Prevention of violence against migrant women is marginally addressed also in the current *National Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Women for 2014 - 2019*. The plan briefly highlights also other forms of violence known abroad which can pose a risk mainly to migrant women (gendercide - abortions of women, honor killings or female genital mutilation).⁴⁵
- The government-approved *Strategy of Labour Mobility of Foreigners in the Slovak Republic*⁴⁶ highlights specific problems of migrant women, i.e. their invisibility and recognizes that women are still disadvantaged more than men in the working life. A task was therefore set up for the Ministry of Labour to initiate measures to prevent multiple discrimination against migrant women in the context of gender and equal opportunities policy coordination. These are long-term measures for information forums and local platforms with a deadline from 2019 onwards. Other long-term measures to be implemented by the Ministry of Labour, Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family and National Labour Inspectorate include consistent reporting of persons divided according to sex, as well as reporting of persons on the basis of age in order to monitor the incidence of child labour.⁴⁷
- *The National Strategy for Equality between Women and Men and Equal Opportunities in the Slovak Republic for 2021 - 2027* points to an increased risk of poverty, which also increases in combination with other disadvantages such as age, disability, ethnicity, household composition, but also origin. Therefore, one of the main goals is focused on the full participation of vulnerable groups in society and their dignified life, as well as on: Counseling and targeted assistance for migrant women; Economic empowerment of vulnerable groups; Improving access to adequate housing, health care, counseling and education services or work; Promoting the right to a dignified life for all. As part of the action plan for this strategy, the task was set to focus more on disadvantaged female jobseekers within active labour market measures. This task will be developed in 2022 in the *Action Plan for Women's Employment*, which is currently being prepared by the Ministry of Labour. The proposal currently includes as one of the priority access to the labour market for women with multiple disadvantages. Its adoption is expected in the first half of 2022. In the previous action plan for 2014-2019, no measures specifically aimed at migrant women were implemented.⁴⁸
- Migrants (without explicit consideration of the gender perspective) belong to the group of persons potentially at risk of poverty and social exclusion also according to the updated *National Framework Strategy for Support of Social Inclusion and the Fight against Poverty*⁴⁹, adopted by the Slovak Republic in November 2020. The strategy comprehensively covers the area of tackling poverty and social exclusion, which contains also assistance to foreigners.⁵⁰

Q9 Is gender mainstreamed in national integration policies? Is this approach also complemented by gender specific policies (dual approach to gender equality)?

No. *The Integration Policy of the Slovak Republic* (see Q8) applies a gender perspective only with regard to domestic violence:

⁴² Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.

⁴³ Measure n. 12, available at: <https://www.employment.gov.sk/files/slovensky/ministerstvo/integracia-cudzincov/dokumenty/akcny-plan-integracnej-politiky-slovenskej-republiky-podmienkach-ministerstva-prace-socialnych-veci-rodiny-slovenskej-republiky-roky-2017-2018.pdf> (consulted on 12. 1. 2022).

⁴⁴ Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.

⁴⁵ Source: <https://www.zastavmenasilie.gov.sk/strategie-a-spravy#entry:855> (consulted on 12. 1. 2022).

⁴⁶ Full title in Slovak: Strategické plánovanie, riadenie a regulovanie pracovnej mobility cudzincov na trh práce v SR do roku 2020 s výhľadom do roku 2030. Available at: <https://www.employment.gov.sk/files/slovensky/uvod/informacie-cudzinci/strategia.pdf> (consulted on 15. 12. 2021).

⁴⁷ Information provided by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.

⁴⁸ Information provided by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.

⁴⁹ Available at: https://www.employment.gov.sk/files/slovensky/rodina-socialna-pomoc/chudoba/narodna-ramcova-stratogia-podpory-socialneho-zaclenenja-boja-proti-chudobe_aktualizacia.pdf (consulted on 15. 12. 2021).

⁵⁰ Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.

"Male and female migrants are a particularly vulnerable group towards domestic violence, which is why integration policy rigorously applies a gender perspective, proposes specific support programmes and takes into account specific risk factors for migrant women as part of measures to eliminate violence against women. As a result, the Integration Policy creates conditions for the provision of specific services for vulnerable groups and the strengthening of cooperation with existing counseling and support services for migrants. The aim of the Integration Policy measures is to fulfill the commitment of the Slovak Republic as one of the first signatory countries and to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence as an important tool for improving legislation, prevention and intervention in the field of domestic violence and violence against women."⁵¹

Q10 Are migrant women specifically addressed in national integration policies (e.g. strategies, action plans, government programmes)?

Please tick the appropriate box in the table below and – according to your answer – continue with the indicated questions.

Table A: Policies addressing migrant women

Yes		No ⁵²	n/a (no national integration policy available)
Third-country nationals	Migrants in general (that might also include EU citizens with migrant background and third-country nationals)		
No.	Yes.		
<i>Please continue with Q11</i>		<i>Please continue with Q10a</i>	<i>Please continue with Q10b & Q11</i>

a) If migrant women are not specifically addressed in national integration policies, what is the reason or underlying approach (e.g. mainstreaming approach)?

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.

b) If no national integration policy is available in your country, are migrant women specifically addressed in national policies across different sectors relevant to integration?

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.

Q11 How are migrant women addressed with regard to the following sectors: labour market, entrepreneurship, education and vocational training, language training, housing, health, civic integration, other?

Please fill out the tables for each focus area by answering the questions included in the tables for each policy (i.e. integration policy or – if not available – sector specific policy). Please add columns, as necessary. Please include information such as the competent authority, the aim of the policy, and the target group.

⁵¹ Source: The Integration Policy of the Slovak Republic, available at: <https://www.employment.gov.sk/files/slovensky/uvod/informacie-cudzinci/integracna-politika.pdf> (consulted on 15. 12. 2021).

⁵² If women are not specifically mentioned but if the policy implies women. (e.g. as parents), that should be reported as "yes". But if the policy is not specific to women but addresses everyone (men, women, boys, girls) this should not be reported and the answer should be "no".

Table B: Labour market integrationYes.⁵³

Labour market	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	Please add columns as necessary
<p>How are migrant women addressed with regard to labour market integration?</p>	<p>Employment services (after inclusion in the register of job seekers):</p> <p>A third-country national and a female third-country national who have been granted long-term residence or asylum, who have been provided subsidiary protection or temporary protection, as well as family members of EU citizens, are entitled under the Employment Services Act to so-called employment services (under the same conditions as Slovak nationals). It is a system of institutions and tools to support and assist labour market participants in finding a job, changing jobs, filling vacancies and using the so-called active labour market measures. Employment services focus specifically on the employment of disadvantaged jobseekers (in case of their inclusion in the register of jobseekers at the labour office, they are registered as disadvantaged jobseekers).</p> <p>Employment services are provided in the Slovak language.</p> <p>The tools of active labour market measures that can be used by the above-mentioned categories of (female) migrants from non-EU countries include, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allowance for) education and training for the labour market • allowance related to retraining of job seekers (REPAS+)⁵⁴ • allowance related to the implementation of competence courses within the KOMPAS+ 	

⁵³ Source: Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.

⁵⁴ Available at: https://www.upsvr.gov.sk/sluzby-zamestnanosti/nastroje-aktivnych-opatreni-na-trhu-prace/repas-pre-uchadzacov-o-zamestnanie-okrem-bsk.html?page_id=908624 (consulted on 11.1.2022).

Labour market	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	Please add columns as necessary
	program (courses focused on the development of communication, personal, computer and language skills) ⁵⁵	
Are migrant women specifically targeted or are they addressed as part of a wider group?	<input type="checkbox"/> Specifically third-country national migrant women targeted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Third-country national migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of migrants (including also EU citizens with migrant background) <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of women	
Are specific categories of migrant women targeted (for example low-/highly-skilled labour migrants, students, family migrants, asylum seekers, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>If Yes, please indicate the category(ies) and describe how their specific backgrounds and needs are addressed?</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
At what stage of the integration process does the policy start (e.g. recently arrived or no differentiation)?	When the female migrant is granted a certain residence (see above) and meets other conditions set by legislation.	

Table C: Entrepreneurship

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.

Entrepreneurship	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	Please add columns as necessary
How are migrant women addressed with regard to entrepreneurship?	<i>Please describe</i>	
Are migrant women specifically targeted or are they addressed as part of a wider group?	<input type="checkbox"/> Specifically third-country national migrant women targeted <input type="checkbox"/> Third-country national migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of migrants (including also EU citizens with migrant background) <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of women	

⁵⁵ Available at: https://www.upsvr.gov.sk/sluzby-zamestnanosti/nastroje-aktivnych-opatreni-na-trhu-prace/repas-pre-uchadzacov-o-zamestnanie-v-ramci-bsk.html?page_id=1112683 (consulted on 11.1.2022).

Entrepreneurship	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	Please add columns as necessary
Are specific categories of migrant women targeted (for example low-/highly-skilled labour migrants, students, family migrants, asylum seekers, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>If Yes, please indicate the category(ies) and describe how their specific backgrounds and needs are addressed?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No	
At what stage of the integration process does the policy start (e.g. recently arrived or no differentiation)?	<i>Please describe</i>	

Table D: Education and vocational training

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.

EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	Please add columns as necessary
How are migrant women addressed with regard to education and vocational training?	<i>Please describe</i>	
Are migrant women specifically targeted or are they addressed as part of a wider group?	<input type="checkbox"/> Specifically third-country national migrant women targeted <input type="checkbox"/> Third-country national migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of migrants (including also EU citizens with migrant background) <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of women	
Are specific categories of migrant women targeted (for example low-/highly-skilled labour migrants, students, family migrants, asylum seekers, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>If Yes, please indicate the category(ies) and describe how their specific backgrounds and needs are addressed?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No	
At what stage of the integration process does the policy start (e.g. recently arrived or no differentiation)?	<i>Please describe</i>	

Table E: Language Training

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.

LANGUAGE TRAINING	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	<i>Please add columns as necessary</i>
How are migrant women addressed with regard to language training?	<i>Please describe</i>	
Are migrant women specifically targeted or are they addressed as part of a wider group?	<input type="checkbox"/> Specifically third-country national migrant women targeted <input type="checkbox"/> Third-country national migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of migrants (including also EU citizens with migrant background) <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of women	
Are specific categories of migrant women targeted (for example low-/highly-skilled labour migrants, students, family migrants, asylum seekers, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>If Yes, please indicate the category(ies) and describe how their specific backgrounds and needs are addressed?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No	
At what stage of the integration process does the policy start (e.g. recently arrived or no differentiation)?	<i>Please describe</i>	

Table F: Housing

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.

HOUSING	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	<i>Please add columns as necessary</i>
How are migrant women addressed with regard to housing?	<i>Please describe</i>	
Are migrant women specifically targeted or are they addressed as part of a wider group?	<input type="checkbox"/> Specifically third-country national migrant women targeted <input type="checkbox"/> Third-country national migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of migrants (including also EU citizens with migrant background) <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of women	
Are specific categories of migrant women targeted (for example low-/highly-skilled labour migrants, students, family migrants, asylum seekers, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>If Yes, please indicate the category(ies) and describe how their specific backgrounds and needs are addressed?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No	
At what stage of the integration process does the policy start (e.g. recently arrived or no differentiation)?	<i>Please describe</i>	

Table G: Health

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.

HEALTH	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	<i>Please add columns as necessary</i>
How are migrant women addressed with regard to health (including mental health)?	<i>Please describe</i>	
Are migrant women specifically targeted or are they addressed as part of a wider group?	<input type="checkbox"/> Specifically third-country national migrant women targeted <input type="checkbox"/> Third-country national migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of migrants (including also EU citizens with migrant background) <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of women	
Are specific categories of migrant women targeted (for example low-/highly-skilled labour migrants, students, family migrants, asylum seekers, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>If Yes, please indicate the category(ies) and describe how their specific backgrounds and needs are addressed?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No	
At what stage of the integration process does the policy start (e.g. recently arrived or no differentiation)?	<i>Please describe</i>	

Table H: Civic integration⁵⁶

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.

CIVIC INTEGRATION	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	<i>Please add columns as necessary</i>
How are migrant women addressed with regard to civic integration?	<i>Please describe</i>	
Are migrant women specifically targeted or are they addressed as part of a wider group?	<input type="checkbox"/> Specifically third-country national migrant women targeted <input type="checkbox"/> Third-country national migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of migrants (including also EU citizens with migrant background) <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of women	

⁵⁶ For example validation of skills, civic courses, political participation or other.

CIVIC INTEGRATION	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	<i>Please add columns as necessary</i>
Are specific categories of migrant women targeted (for example low-/highly-skilled labour migrants, students, family migrants, asylum seekers, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>If Yes, please indicate the category(ies) and describe how their specific backgrounds and needs are addressed?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No	
At what stage of the integration process does the policy start (e.g. recently arrived or no differentiation)?	<i>Please describe</i>	

Table I: Other⁵⁷

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.

OTHER	Name of integration policy or sector specific policy	<i>Please add columns as necessary</i>
How are migrant women addressed with regard to other areas?	<i>Please describe</i>	
Are migrant women specifically targeted or are they addressed as part of a wider group?	<input type="checkbox"/> Specifically third-country national migrant women targeted <input type="checkbox"/> Third-country national migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of migrants (including also EU citizens with migrant background) <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant women addressed as part of a wider group of women	
Are specific categories of migrant women targeted (for example low-/highly-skilled labour migrants, students, family migrants, asylum seekers, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>If Yes, please indicate the category(ies) and describe how their specific backgrounds and needs are addressed?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No	
At what stage of the integration process does the policy start (e.g. recently arrived or no differentiation)?	<i>Please describe</i>	

⁵⁷ For example anti-discrimination measures, measures against racism, hate speech and violence against women, measures to enhance exchanges with the majority population, measures focusing on specific groups e.g. parents/families, or other.

Section 3: Integration measures in the Member State

This part of the study looks at available funding and provides examples of integration measures targeting migrant women that have been identified as a good practice.

Q12 Is national funding available in your Member State for measures to support the integration of migrant women? Do structural funds / EU programmes fund integration measures targeting or addressing migrant women and if yes, to what extent (as a share of total funding)?

Please provide your answer here.

Migrant women in Slovakia were not the exclusive target group of projects of the Fund for Asylum, Migration and Integration (AMIF) or the Operational Programme Human Resources 2014 - 2020.

In Slovakia, migrant women are currently part of the target group of two AMIF 2014 - 2020 projects⁵⁸ within the so-called vulnerable groups (e.g. single mothers with children, pregnant women, women of retirement age, women with health problems), where, based on an assessment of individual needs, they may be provided with project support for a longer period. However, specific indicators of the proportion of measures for migrant women are not reported for AMIF projects.⁵⁹

As for the Operational Programme Human Resources, in the previous programming period 2014-2020, no calls aimed only at migrant women, nor at migrants in general, were announced or implemented.⁶⁰

Q13 What integration measures (systematic initiatives, projects or legislative measures) are available in the Member State that specifically address migrant women and have been identified as "good practice"? Please provide, if possible, up to three examples from the period 2016-2020 and note why the example was selected.

For methodological guidance on identifying "good practices" please refer so Section 10 (Methodological considerations) of the Common Template.

Note: A mapping of all reported integration measures will be provided in an annex. The study will include an analysis of the reported measures, including examples.

Please fill out Table 10 below describing the first good practice measure, and copy Table 10 to fill out to describe up to three further measures from the period 2016-2020.

In 2016 - 2020, no systematic initiatives, projects or legislative measures were implemented in the Slovak Republic, which in accordance with the methodology of this questionnaire⁶¹ could be described as good practice aimed at migrant women from non-EU countries.⁶² The civic sector and international organisations in Slovakia in the given period focused in their projects on migrant women from non-EU countries sporadically, or they were part of activities aimed at migrants in general. Thus, in this period, there were no civic sector projects / activities in Slovakia that would have migrant women as the sole target group.

Among the civic sector organisations that deal directly also with migrant women in their activities are:

- Human Rights League (community and advocacy activities, BaBinec project⁶³, general legal advice for male and female foreigners)⁶⁴;
- Islamic Foundation (community activities and BaBinec project)⁶⁵;
- OZ Mareena (e.g. community activities, career counseling and social pop-up café Mareena café).⁶⁶

⁵⁸ Projects under the Specific Goal 2 "Integration":

- "Rifugio" (implemented by the non-governmental organisation Slovak Humanitarian Council, implementation period from 1. 1. 2020 till 31. 10. 2022) and
- "Migračné informačné centrum IOM na podporu integrácie cudzincov na Slovensku (fáza X)" (implemented by the international organisation IOM, implementation period from 1. 1. 2020 till 31. 10. 2022).

⁵⁹ Questionnaire filled by the Foreign Aid Department of the European Programmes Section of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic and by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

⁶⁰ Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.

⁶¹ In this study, identification of an integration measure as a "good practice" utilises the European Website on Integration guidance where a good practice is defined as a measure that is "effective, efficient, sustainable and/or transferable, and that reliably lead[s] to a desired result". Furthermore, for the purpose of this study, an integration measure can additionally be considered "good" if it applies the concepts of gender-sensitivity or intersectionality. The selection of the measure should be made by an expert working in the field (e.g. policy maker; service provider; civil society organisation; migrant organisations) or based on studies or evaluations.

⁶² Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

⁶³ Available at: <https://www.islamonline.sk/2021/08/babinec-rande-so-sebou-spoznavaj-motivuj-sa-inspiruj/>

⁶⁴ Available at: <https://www.hrl.sk/sk>

⁶⁵ Available at: <https://www.islamonline.sk/>

⁶⁶ Available at: <https://mareena.sk/>

From international organisations, migrant women are targeted by IOM Slovakia within the activities of the Migration Information Center (ad hoc community activities organised for women by cultural mediators, Slovak and civic orientation courses for women, general legal and labour counseling also for male and female migrants from non-EU countries).⁶⁷

Table 10

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.⁶⁸

Measure 1	
a) Overview	
Name	<i>Please insert name of the measure here.</i>
Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic initiatives (multi-year / long term) <input type="checkbox"/> Projects (ad-hoc) <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative (structural) measure
Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Labour market <input type="checkbox"/> Entrepreneurship <input type="checkbox"/> Education and vocational training <input type="checkbox"/> Language training <input type="checkbox"/> Housing <input type="checkbox"/> Health <input type="checkbox"/> Civic integration <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>)
Access	<input type="checkbox"/> Third-country nationals <input type="checkbox"/> Migrants in general (not only third-country nationals, but also EU nationals)
Target group	<input type="checkbox"/> Tailor-made measure (only migrant women). <i>Please specify the category if possible.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Mainstream measure (migrant women are taken into account while the measure has a wider target group). <i>Please describe how migrant women are specifically targeted in the measure.</i>
Stage of the integration process (e.g. recently arrived or no differentiation)	<i>Please describe</i>
Coverage	<input type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> Local
Link	<i>Please provide hyperlink to source/project here, if available.</i>

⁶⁷ Available at: <https://www.mic.iom.sk/sk/>

⁶⁸ Questionnaire filled by the the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, and by the Foreign Aid Department of the European Programmes Section of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

Source and justification	<i>Please indicate the source/who proposed the practice as good and explain why the measure is considered a "good practice" (see Section 10 Methodological Considerations).</i>
b) Description	
<p>i) What is the objective of the measure and underlying integration opportunity/challenge to be addressed? <i>Please describe.</i></p> <p>ii) When was the measure introduced and what was/is its duration? Is/was it a pilot measure? Is funding provided to ensure sustainability? <i>Please describe.</i></p> <p>iii) How and by whom (agency, government institution, NGOs, private sector, etc.) is/was the measure implemented? <i>Please describe.</i></p> <p>iv) How/by whom is/was the measure funded? <i>Please describe.</i></p> <p>v) What strategies have been adopted to reach migrant women? <i>Please describe.</i></p> <p>vi) Are evaluations of the measure available? If yes, did the measure meet the anticipated objectives in relation to migrant women? What are the main outcomes? <i>Please describe.</i></p> <p>vii) Where there any obstacles during implementation and if yes, how were they overcome (i.e. what are the lessons learnt)? <i>Please describe.</i></p>	

Section 4: Responses to COVID-19

This part of the study focuses on changes in integration policies or measures for migrant women in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Q14 Were integration policies or measures developed to counteract the negative consequences of COVID-19 specifically for migrant women's integration?

a) Integration (or sector specific) policies

Please describe the key features of the policy(ies), for the areas / sectors set out in Q11 (i.e. labour market, education and vocational training, entrepreneurship, language training, etc.)

b) Integration measures

Please describe the key features of the measure(s).

a) and b):

In 2020, the Slovak Republic did not implement any integration policies or measures which would be specifically aimed at mitigating negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrant women from non-EU countries.⁶⁹

However, in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic, several legislative measures were taken, whose aim was to mitigate the social impact of the pandemic not only on the citizens of the Slovak Republic, but also

⁶⁹ Source: Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

on foreigners. It was mainly provision of the so-called pandemic parental allowance and the provision of parental allowance for the duration of a crisis situation.⁷⁰

Section 5: Plans and future outlook

This part of the study will provide information on policies and measures planned in the EU Member States and Norway. This is particularly relevant for those countries that identified specific challenges for migrant women's integration as identified in Eurostat and in national statistical sources (Q3 and Q4), or where migrant women were particularly affected by the impact of COVID-19.

Q15 Please provide information on planned policy developments as well as plans to introduce new measures, also in light of the impact of COVID-19:

c) Does your Member State plan to develop new or revise existing national integration policies that address challenges faced by migrant women?

Please describe and explain the reasons / drivers, and the new development.

d) Does your Member State plan to develop any new integration measures that address challenges faced by migrant women?

Please describe and explain the reasons / drivers and the new development.

Responses for a) and b):

No.⁷¹

In 2021, the Slovak Republic approved two strategic documents covering the whole or part of the area of migration. *The Migration Policy of the Slovak Republic with a View till 2025* does not specifically cover the integration of migrant women from non-EU countries.⁷² *The Recovery and Resilience Plan for Slovakia for the years 2021 - 2027*⁷³ also lacks an explicit orientation towards migrant women. Activities under the forthcoming *Operational Programme Slovakia 2021-2027* focus on migrants and their family members in general (priority: Active inclusion and accessible services, specific objective: Support for the socio-economic integration of third-country nationals).⁷⁴

Section 6: Conclusions

This part of the study compiles the main findings from sections 1-5.

Q16 Please synthesise the findings of your national report by drawing conclusions from your responses to Q1-Q15:

e) What are the main integration opportunities and challenges for migrant women identified in your country (Section 1)?

Due to the absence of statistics and research on migrant women, it was not possible to identify the main opportunities and challenges of their integration in the Slovak Republic. Apart from the statistics on employment, studies, valid residences and granted state citizenships, the Slovak Republic does not collect or does not have available data on migrants broken down by sex. The last research publications on this topic were published in 2009 and 2011.

In 2016 – 2020, the topic of the migrant women integration did not become the subject of public or political discussion in Slovakia and was not part of any debates over draft policies or laws.⁷⁵ In November 2021, the non-profit sector initiated a public discussion about situation of migrant women and their gender equality in Slovakia in the context of policies, research, projects and daily life. Aim of the event was to launch expert discussion on importance of addressing this topic. According to the experts present at the

⁷⁰ Source: EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum in the Slovak Republic in 2020, available at: <https://emn.sk/sk/publikacie/vyrocnne-spravy-emn-o-migracii-a-azyle.html> (consulted on 15. 12. 2021).

⁷¹ Source: Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

⁷² Source: <https://rokovania.gov.sk/RVL/Material/26387/1> (consulted on 7.10.2021).

⁷³ Available at: <https://www.planobnovy.sk/> (consulted on 1.11.2021).

⁷⁴ Source: Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.

⁷⁵ Source: IOM Slovakia's media monitoring for years 2016 – 2020.

seminar, Slovak Republic lacks quality data and information on migrant women, and the topic is not present in the public policies and targeted activities for this group of residents in Slovakia.⁷⁶

The very absence of collection or unavailability of such data and research thus represents a main challenge for the Slovak Republic in the future preparation and framing of possible policies and measures aimed at (also) the integration of migrant women or the inclusion of this topic in sectoral policies.

f) What are the key characteristics of the national integration policies (Section 2) and measures (Section 3) presented in terms of categories, focus area, stage of the integration process, etc.?

The situation of migrant women in Slovakia was not a priority in the years 2016 - 2021 when creating policies, laws, measures or project calls. In general, the Slovak Republic does not have targeted or sectoral policies and strategies that would address specific areas of integration of migrant women from non-EU countries. If the strategy papers refer to migrant women, this has been reflected in the relevant action plans and specific measures for this target group to a very limited extent or not at all.

Integration policy of the Slovak Republic is created at national level and is in the competence of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, which also coordinates Interministerial Expert Commission for Labour Migration and Integration of Foreigners (MEKOMIC). The integration of beneficiaries of international protection is ensured mainly by the Migration Office of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with a non-governmental organisation⁷⁷ through the AMIF fund projects.

The current *Integration Policy of the Slovak Republic* from 2014 refers to migrant women and to the principle of gender perspective only in the context of vulnerability, domestic violence or as part of a population at risk of poverty or social exclusion. *The Strategy of Labour Mobility of Foreigners in the Slovak Republic* highlights specific problems of migrant women, i.e. their invisibility and recognizes that women are still disadvantaged more than men in the working life. In this context, a task was set up to initiate measures to prevent multiple discrimination against migrant women.

There are no specific measures or tools implemented in the Slovak Republic designed exclusively for migrant women. The services that can be used in Slovakia by women from non-EU countries are in principle identical to the services provided to men from non-EU countries.

Services available to migrant women in Slovakia are from the field of labour market integration. Like migrant men, women from non-EU countries who have long-term residence in Slovakia, asylum, subsidiary protection, temporary protection, or are family members of EU citizens, have through labour offices access to the so-called employment services. Employment services are, however, provided only in the Slovak language, which can form a practical obstacle in their use. In other integration or sectoral policies (entrepreneurship, education and vocational training, language training, housing, health, civic integration, etc.) such integration element was not identified.

Migrant women in Slovakia were not the exclusive target group of projects of the Fund for Asylum, Migration and Integration (AMIF) or the Operational Programme Human Resources 2014 - 2020.⁷⁸

In 2016 - 2020, no systematic initiatives, projects or legislative measures were implemented in the Slovak Republic, which in accordance with the methodology of this questionnaire could be described as good practice aimed at migrant women from non-EU countries.⁷⁹ The civic sector and international organisations in Slovakia in the given period focused in their projects on migrant women from non-EU countries sporadically, or they were part of activities aimed at migrants in general.

g) How do special integration policies or measures developed to counteract the negative consequences of COVID-19 (Section 4) differ from those previously in place (Sections 2 and 3)?

In 2020, the Slovak Republic did not implement any integration policies or measures specifically aimed at mitigating negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrant women from non-EU countries.⁸⁰

⁷⁶ Source: <https://www.hrl.sk/sk/o-nas/aktuality/neviditelne-zeny--rodova-rovnost-v-oblasti-migracie-a-integracie-migrantiek-na-slovensku> (consulted on 26. 11. 2021).

⁷⁷ At the time of writing, the Migration Office cooperated with the non-governmental organisation Slovak Humanitarian Council on the integration of persons with international protection.

⁷⁸ Questionnaire filled by the Foreign Aid Department of the European Programmes Section of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic and by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

⁷⁹ Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

⁸⁰ Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

h) How do planned new integration policies and measures (Section 5) link to the main opportunities and challenges identified (Section 1 / Q16a) and/or responses to COVID-19 (Section 4)?

Not applicable for the Slovak Republic.⁸¹

⁸¹ Questionnaire filled by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic, by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, and by the Foreign Aid Department of the European Programmes Section of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.