



# Danube Transnational Programme **YOUMIG**

National policy recommendations for  
improved cooperation on youth migration

## National policy recommendations

WP6  
Activity 6.2

June 2019

**HUNGARY**

**WP6 – Activity 6.2**

**National policy recommendations for better institutional  
cooperation regarding youth migration**

**National policy recommendations**

**HUNGARY**

**The Hungarian Central Statistical Office, with contributions from  
the Municipality of Szeged (Hungary) and  
the Institute of Social Sciences (Serbia)**

**June 2019**

## Table of Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b> .....   | 3  |
| <b>1.1 Short introduction about youth migration</b> .....  | 6  |
| <b>1.2 Short introduction about youth migration in HUNGARY</b> .....                                     | 7  |
| <b>1.3 Short introduction about the MLG concept</b> .....  | 8  |
| <b>1.4. Short introduction to activity 6.2 Building multi-level governance cooperation schemes</b> ..... | 8  |
| <b>2.1 Area of intervention No.1 - Recommendations for methodological developments at the HCSO</b>       | 10 |
| <b>2.2 Area of intervention No.2 - Recommendations concerning processing administrative data</b> .....   | 13 |
| <b>2.3 Area of intervention No.3 - Recommendations for dissemination activities</b> .....                | 14 |
| <b>2.4 Area of intervention No.4 - Integrated approach to in-, out- and return migration</b> .....       | 17 |

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document is a **summary of a consultation process undertaken within YOUMIG**, a transnational project focusing on a better measuring and management of youth migration. The consultations followed a methodology developed jointly by the Institute of Social Sciences (Serbia) and the Hungarian Central Statistical Office, in close cooperation with the Municipality of Szeged, the Hungarian local partner in the YOUMIG project. Several Hungarian central government institutions participated in the consultation process during two workshops organized in November 2018 and March 2019. The recommendations listed here are the outcomes of this process, and they reflect the opinion of its authors (the YOUMIG project team within the Hungarian Central Statistical Office).

The policy recommendations are focussed on **possible areas of multi-level governance between institutions**, or the improvement of certain procedures within institutions. The objective of these recommendations is to enumerate **concrete and feasible measures which could help local authorities to better measure and manage the immigration, emigration and return migration of young people**.

The main policy recommendations can be summarized as follows:

The **Hungarian Central Statistical Office** should consider **developing its methodologies of data collection**, including the sampling procedures pertaining to foreigners, the unification of missing response codes or the extension of questionnaires (e.g. OSAP 1960) with questions related to languages spoken as well as to include questions on the respondent's family members.

Based on the work undertaken in YOUMIG, the Hungarian Central Statistical Office should continue to **develop indicators on the trends of in-, out- and return migration and their socio-economic contexts at the lowest territorial level possible**. Main sources include the Demographic Database, the Census / Microcensus, the Labour Force Survey, EU-SILC, as well as several OSAP questionnaires. A review of the SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) indicators in terms of their applicability for migration statistics is also necessary. Complex indicators (e.g. alternative cost index for evaluating the impact of emigration) could also be developed for specific policy areas.

For data and indicators not available in the databases of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office, a methodology for a **local survey** was conducted in Szeged. It is recommended that the Municipality of Szeged – as well as other Hungarian municipalities interested in the topic of youth migration – use this methodology for further data collection.

Concerning other institutions, **micro-datasets containing data on natural persons** are already being used by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office, but the thorough investigation of these datasets, including their potential for linkage, is of utmost importance for the inclusion of youth migration-related data in a population register. The National Health Insurance Fund, the

Ministry of Interior, the Immigration and Asylum Office, the National Tax and Customs Administration, the Educational Authority, the Ministry of Finance and the Hungarian State Treasury are key **central-level institutions** in this respect, while local authorities (such as the Municipality of Szeged) **should be regularly consulted** in order to cross-check the applicability of the developments in local administrative contexts.

Besides data collection, the **publication of data** is also important. The Hungarian Central Statistical Office should feed more detailed data on domestic and international migration into the Statat system, developing the Statat database from the point of view of territorial units and including data on county level (NUTS3), wherever possible. The Hungarian Central Statistical Office's Dissemination Database (a dynamic query system for publishing data) and the TEIR system (National Territorial Information System) should also be developed based on consultations and feedback from municipalities.

**Integrated communication for in-, out- and return migrants** is also a field to be developed. A one-stop-shop online portal should be set up for handling the administrative tasks required of foreigners arriving, and Hungarians returning to Hungary. In addition, **targeted informational materials** should be created on the following two, strategically important topics: the **employment of foreigners** in sectors or occupations where workforce is especially lacking, and information for those **Hungarians abroad who wish to repatriate to Hungary**. These documents should be updated frequently and linked to as many governmental websites as possible.

The **upgrade of English-language websites** is also necessary across Hungarian public administration. The information available on Hungarian governmental websites is very often only in Hungarian, which makes it difficult for foreigners to be informed. A detailed list of websites is provided in the present document.

The **integrated approach to in-, out- and return migration** should also include the review and renewal of strategic documents. Most importantly, Hungary's current **migration strategy** (government decree 1698/2013. X. 4.), should be updated and completed with issues of emigration and return migration. Also, it would be desirable to set up a **permanent government committee on emigration and return migration** with all relevant government institutions included, in order to facilitate the flow of information and to contribute to a better and more grounded decision-making.

Finally, in addition to providing numbers on the immigrant and emigrant population, an **analysis of socio-demographic characteristics** should be carried out for all relevant groups, including second-generation immigrants, and also on the local level. Policies for diaspora and for the encouragement of return migration should be designed based on targeted research on the emigrant population.

## YOUMIG at a glance

**Full name:** YOUMIG - Improving institutional capacities and fostering cooperation to tackle the impacts of transnational youth migration

A project of the **Danube Transnational Programme**

**Start date:** 01-01-2017

**End date:** 30-06-2019

**Budget:** 2,718,853 EUR (ERDF Contribution: 2,055,179 EUR, IPA Contribution: 255,846 EUR)

**Call number:** Call 1

**Priority:** 4. (Well-governed Danube region)

**Specific objective:** 4.1. (Improve institutional capacities to tackle major societal challenges)

### **Project partners:**

**Lead partner:** Hungarian Central Statistical Office (HU)

**Work package leaders:** University of Vienna (AT), Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (DE), Maribor Development Agency (SI), INFOSTAT - Institute of Informatics and Statistics (SK)

**ERDF partners:** Municipality of Szeged (HU), City of Graz (AT), Institute for Economic Research (SI), Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities (RO), Municipality of Sfântu Gheorghe (RO), National Statistical Institute of the Republic of Bulgaria (BG), Burgas Municipality (BG), Municipality of the City district of Bratislava- Rača (SK)

**IPA partners:** Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (RS), Institute of Social Sciences (RS), Municipality of Kanjiža (RS)

**Associated Strategic Partners:** Statistics Austria (AT), City of Karlsruhe (DE), Federal Institute for Population Research (DE)

YOUMIG, in which 19 partners from 8 countries work together, wishes to support local governments in using the developmental potential of youth migration, which will lead to a better governed and more competitive Danube region. The project aims at boosting their institutional capacities to enhance the scarce local evidence of youth migration and contributing to improved policymaking with a focus on human capital. Statistical offices and academic organizations team up with local governments in a complex and customized multi-level and transnational cooperation to create local developmental strategies based on improved impact indicators of youth migration and to introduce transnationally tested tools for managing local challenges. As a result, institutions and stakeholders obtain increased capacities through an intensified cooperation.

YOUMIG's work is structured in six work packages (WPs). Aside from management (WP1) and communication (WP2) issues, the thematic work is distributed as follows. In line with the project's Conceptual Framework, all partners contribute to the development of improved evidence of youth migration and its developmental impacts on the EU, national and local level by elaborating local status quo analyses for the local partners (WP3). Through a comprehensive evaluation of the locally available indicators of youth migration, the project identifies the shortfalls of measuring local challenges and elaborates and tests new or improved indicators of youth migration (WP4). On the local level, the project improves capacities to manage related processes by jointly testing and introducing good practices and institutional units, tailored to local needs (WP5). The project concludes in transnationally tested tools for all governance levels contributing to better strategies, policies and services related to the issue of youth migration (WP6).

YOUMIG's outputs are uploaded to <http://www.interreg-danube.eu/youmig/outputs>

*Map of the Danube region and location of the YOUMIG partners*



*Cartography: ÁdámNémeth*

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Short introduction about youth migration

The mobility of young people throughout the world has increased and took diverse forms in recent decades. Countries in the Danube region are no exceptions in this respect, as they face both outflow and inflow challenges related to youth migration. Apart from the traditional causes of this phenomenon, new drivers have emerged that make migration patterns more complex. The emigration of young people may cause a severe loss of labour force and human capital, coupled with untraced incoming transfers (such as social and financial remittances), while immigration, if not properly managed, may result in the marginalisation and underuse of human resources. Youth migration and its consequences require better governance at all levels of administration, in order to make its management easier on the local level, and for harnessing its potentials for local development.



## 1.2 Short introduction about youth migration in HUNGARY

Hungary is facing a negative natural change of the population, between -30,000 and -40,000 per year, as well as an increasing ageing of the population. The negative change is balanced out by a permanent, if not very large, inflow of immigrants. Many immigrants arrive from neighbouring countries, and some of them speak Hungarian as a mother tongue, making their social integration fairly easy. Nonetheless, other sending countries, such as China, are also important. Immigration has an uneven territorial distribution, as most immigrants settle in Budapest, and in some areas along the country's eastern border. Immigrants on average are younger than the Hungarian-born population, and their education attainment level is higher.

On the other hand, Hungary is facing an important trend of outward migration as well. After the country's EU accession and the gradual opening of the labour markets of member states between 2004 and 2011, emigration started to rise. The main destination countries are Germany, the United Kingdom and Austria. Emigrants on average are younger and more skilled than the Hungarian average. Return migration is significant, with nearly half of the emigrants returning to Hungary after some years spent abroad.

Since in all migration flows (immigration, emigration and return migration) the 15-34 age group is overrepresented, it is important to add the age component to studies and policy actions focussing on migration processes to and from Hungary. Negative natural change and ageing of the population make it necessary to tackle the root causes of emigration and to encourage return migration, as well as legal immigration.

Local level processes might differ from the national average: especially the capital city, Budapest, shows patterns that are different from the rest of the country, as it hosts a considerable stock of internal as well as international migrants. On the other end of the spectrum, rural regions in Northeast, East and Southwest Hungary face a very serious depopulation.

The local YOUMIG project partner in Hungary is the Municipality of Szeged, an important regional centre that enjoys a rather favourable economic and demographic development, in contrast with the less developed and depopulating region that surrounds it. While in the late 1990s and early 2000s the city's internal migration balance was negative, from 2005 onwards it had become positive. International migration, however, is a factor of population loss: from 2009, a growing outflow is observed towards the United Kingdom, Germany and Austria – a common trend also on the national level. Return migration is, nonetheless, important, and the same can be said about immigration.

The main immigrant communities in Szeged are the Serbia-born (about 6000 persons) and the Romania-born groups (about 3000 persons), most of whom, however, belong to the Hungarian ethnic minority in their home countries. Students of the University of Szeged coming from all around the world (about 2000 persons) form the third most populous group.



## 1.3 Short introduction about the MLG concept

Multi-level governance (MLG), as defined by the EU Committee of the Regions, means coordinated action by the EU, its Member States and local and sub-national governments, based on partnership and involving operational and institutional cooperation in all phases of the policy cycle, from drafting to implementing policies. These actions require the coordination and distribution of competencies from national to sub-national levels, with high importance given to the EU transnational level, especially in view of the MLG of migration and integration policy. Therefore, MLG refers to the dispersion of central government authority, both vertically to actors located at different territorial and administrative levels, and horizontally, to actors and domains at the same level of government.

Regional (NUTS2) competences on migration policies are not broad. However, local governments have competence in providing public services for migrants. Therefore, the basis for MLG cooperation should be further strengthened, and localities should be considered partners in the national-level policy dialogue on migration and integration objectives and indicators.

## 1.4. Short introduction to activity 6.2 Building multi-level governance cooperation schemes

This document is the outcome of YOUMIG's efforts to facilitate cooperation between different levels of governance, and to provide a testing field for knowledge exchange mechanisms. The activity has tested the modalities of cooperation between national administrative bodies, statistical offices, research institutions and local municipalities to better measure, evaluate and manage the causes, patterns and impacts of youth migration, thus resulting in improved multi-level governance cooperation. Based on previous project outcomes (Local Status Quo Analyses; Set of new or improved indicators and One-stop shops), several channels of institutional cooperation on different government levels were used.

The recommendations listed here come from these project activities, as well as from a series of workshops held on the subject in 7 project countries. In 2018-2019, two types of workshops were organised at the national level in each country. The Ambition Setting Workshop served to map existing knowledge and competences, to evaluate the current cooperation practices and to define the needs and possibilities for improved multi-level governance cooperation based on the MLG concept. The Vision Development Workshop served to discuss the National level policy recommendations for better institutional cooperation regarding youth migration, which present the main activity output.

## NATIONAL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MLG COOPERATION

In addition to the goals of the YOUMIG project, the present document was compiled using the recommendations put forward by Eurostat and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, (UNECE), as well as the policy recommendations made in the frame of an earlier project also led by the HCSO, the SEEMIG project, which ran from 2012 to 2014.<sup>1</sup>

With these considerations in mind, the long-term aim of the envisaged developments is to create an integrated statistical database, which is able to use both primary sources (for instance, HCSO data collections) and secondary sources (for instance, administrative registers), and where determinants of the population, such as socio-demographic characteristics, or those related to education, health care, employment, taxation, etc. will be available in a longitudinal approach. The latter will make it possible to follow temporal changes regarding the above-mentioned determinants. As migration statistics is a sub-category of population statistics, creating such a statistical population register would help in future to establish on the one hand a register-based population census and, on the other, a data pool of migration statistics containing more accurate, up-to-date and detailed data. In this way, the birth of targeted policies on population and population change would be supported.

Creating, developing and maintaining a statistical population register, as well as a sub-system containing migration statistics, requires close cooperation among the data owners of potentially available sources, including the producers of administrative data sources in Hungary, as well as the producers of mirror statistics in other countries. Lately, great forward steps have been taken in the area of cooperation between various institutions. Several cooperation agreements with partner institutions have been forged based on Hungary's Act on Statistics (CLV. 2016 on official statistics), regular consultations were held with data owners, secure online channels have been set up for the exchange of administrative data, several administrative databases have been adopted and the HCSO gained legal authorisation for combining them by using unique identifiers which are necessary to make these linkages.

A one-by-one examination of potentially useful data sources is currently being carried out. An evaluation of the steps needed to link together the various data sources (or, in case of missing data, to create statistical estimations) is also ongoing. Further, it is of utmost importance for the HCSO to publish data which could help support decision-making at the various levels of government. In order to meet these aims, in the framework of the YOUMIG project, the HCSO has proposed the development of complex measurement tools (indicators), which are suitable for describing national and sub-national territorial units and has made recommendations for further indicator developments.

Last, but not least, cooperation between the HCSO, certain central government institutions and local governments is crucial in order to coordinate policy on in-, out- and return migration as well as to communicate those policies in a regular, coherent and easy-to-understand way.

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.demografia.hu/en/seemig>

Foreign-language publications with adequate content could help improve the enforcement of legal rights of the target groups mentioned, as well as to reduce the administrative burdens connected to those groups.

## 2.1 Area of intervention No.1 - Recommendations for methodological developments at the HCSO

The first part of recommendations for methodological developments at the HCSO will be related to those data production processes, which can potentially contribute to the creation of a high-quality population register; while the second half aims at the development of indicators which will lead to a better understanding of population change. The production of a majority of these indicators can be simplified with the use of the population register to be developed, in line with the plans described in the introduction.

### **Upgrading methodology for HCSO data collections**

The development of primary HCSO data collections is necessary for migration statistics, including a development of sampling procedures pertaining to foreigners, the unification of missing response codes or the extension of questionnaires.

#### **Examples: the extension of OSAP 1960 questionnaires**

The HCSO collects data on new Hungarian citizens taking their citizenship vows with the help of the OSAP 1960 questionnaire. We recommend an extension of the questionnaire,

- adding questions regarding languages spoken,
- questions on children, and
- questions on whether the children plan to move to Hungary as well, etc.

It is recommended that the way the data are recorded is examined on site (Veszprém), as well as paying a visit to the site of the oath-taking ceremony, consulting the officials at the mayor's office in connection with the practicalities of filling in the questionnaire.

### **Development of indicators on population change**

#### ***a) YOUMIG indicators: results and sustainability of developments***

The YOUMIG project has developed indicators in seven countries based on a common methodology, which are suited to present to decision-makers the trends on in-, out- and return migration and their socio-economic contexts at the lowest territorial level possible, in an easy-to-understand form.

In the case of Hungary these indicators are the following:

| Number | Name of indicator   | Data source(s) used   |
|--------|---|---|
| 1.     | Population based on sex, age, country of citizenship  | HCSO Demographic Database   |
| 2.     | Number of immigrants in given year, domestic/international  | HCSO Demographic Database   |
| 3.     | Top 5 countries of origin   | HCSO Demographic Database   |
| 4.     | Number of out-migrants in year specified, domestic/international  | HCSO Demographic Database   |
| 5.     | Number of registered return migrants in given year, based on sex, educational attainment                                    | HCSO Demographic Database, Census 2011, Microcensus 2016, Eurostat    |
| 6.     | Persons aged 15-34 based on highest educational attainment, sex, age group, country of citizenship (domestic/foreign)       | Census 2011, Microcensus 2016, MEF, SILC                              |
| 7.     | Mobility rate of students in higher education, based on sex   | Microcensus 2016  |
| 8.     | Skill level of return migrants  | Census 2011, Microcensus 2016, YOUMIG local survey                    |
| 9.     | Subjective well-being of population   | SILC, Microcensus 2016, YOUMIG local survey                           |
| 10.    | Tolerance towards foreigners (foreign workers)  | YOUMIG local survey, Eurobarometer, ESS                               |
| 11.    | Intention to emigrate within the next 5 years (possibly) destination country of emigration, planned duration of stay        | YOUMIG local survey, Microcensus 2016                                 |
| 12.    | Regional per capita GDP (NUTS3)   | HCSO national accounts, World Bank                                    |
| 13.    | Business demography: the number, size (number of employees) and ownership structure (domestic/foreign) of active businesses | HCSO GSZR (Business Register)   |
| 14.    | Disposable household income, per household member   | YOUMIG local survey, SILC   |
| 15.    | Status of economic activity in population, based on 5-year age groups and citizenship (domestic/foreign)                    | Census 2011, Microcensus 2016, MEF                                    |
| 16.    | Health-care sector employees / number of unfilled jobs  | Eurostat, HCSO OSAP 1019, OSAP 1021, OSAP 1589                        |
| 17.    | Top 5 emigration countries based on number of diaspora members  | Microcensus 2016, UNDP estimates, Eurostat, HCSO Demographic Database |
| 18.    | Debt-income ratio   | YOUMIG local survey, SILC   |
| 19.    | Housing price-income ratio  | YOUMIG local survey, SILC, NAV  |

The developed indicators are included in the computer-assisted tool (Data Toolkit) produced for local governments by the YOUMIG project. We consider it important to present this set of tools to Hungarian local councils in a broad circle, and to continue the work started, we recommend that indicators should be further developed and constructed on a regular basis, so that a set of measurements of a similar high standard should be readily available for decision and policy makers.

***b) A review of SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) indicators in terms of their feasibility for migration statistics purposes***

SDG 2030 recommendations highlight the importance of international migration, and this has a prime impact on sending, transit and destination countries alike. At the same time the recommendations underline that legal, visible channels of international migration should be promoted while observing the rights of persons involved in international migration.

For the purposes of following up on SDG 2030 recommendations, it is crucial that relevant data such as sex, age and migration status should be available also.

In connection with sustainable development goal indicators regularly published by the HCSO, we recommend breaking down population, society-related data for citizenship, and, where relevant, to expand the above-mentioned set of tools with the said SDG indicators.

***c) Developing complex indicators for migration statistics***

Developing special indicators is recommended, using data from several fields, and based on migration statistics and other data sources, making them useful for strategic planning. In the following, an example is presented for the national level. The local level variant of this complex indicator, as well as several others, are currently being assessed by the expert team of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office.

***Example: alternative cost index for evaluating the impact of emigration***

The proposed complex indicator - a simplified index for the alternative costs of emigration - would give an assessment from the point of view of implications for the central budget based on a sum of taxes lost and gained due to emigration, as well as a balance of the two factors. As part of the calculation, items connected to migration with regard to tax revenue from employment and consumption would be estimated on the level of the national economy. During the estimation we shall consider the following premises:

- 1) Related to employment: all migrants, had they stayed in Hungary, would have filled as employees all vacant jobs available.
- 2) Related to consumption:

- all migrants, had they stayed in Hungary and taken up employment, would have spent their entire income on consumption;
- actual emigrants spend the full amount of repatriated remittances on consumptions.

The components of alternative costs of emigration are the following:

- a) Lost personal income tax: personal income tax lost due to unfilled vacant jobs
- b) Lost Value-Added-Tax: VAT lost in connection with potential unspent income connected to vacant jobs not filled;
- c) VAT surplus: VAT derived from remittances sent home by actual migrants and spent on consumption

The indicator for alternative costs of emigration = a + b + c.

## 2.2 Area of intervention No.2 - Recommendations concerning processing administrative data

### **Review of Hungarian micro-datasets containing data on natural persons**

The main components needed for building a statistical population register are the micro-datasets of various administrative registers. A thorough investigation of these datasets, including their potential for linkage, is of utmost importance. One of the possible central elements (so-called core registers) of the population register to be created is the National Health Insurance Fund (NEAK) TAJ-BSZJ database, which will be examined in the frame of an international project (ESS.VIP.BUS.ADMIN). The aim of the project is to improve the measurement of international migration based on administrative data sources, and to reveal further possibilities in the longitudinal measurement methods used with administrative data. As a next step, we will match up pre-screened micro-datasets with the restructured longitudinal database achieved as a result of our prior efforts, with the help of unique identifiers, mainly those of the Ministry of Interior and the Immigration and Asylum Office (BMH). In addition, we consider it necessary to examine the registries kept by the National Tax and Customs Administration (NAV), the Educational Authority (OH), the Ministry of Finance (PM) and the Hungarian Treasury (MÁK).

### **Incorporating databases already used for validation into the process of creating data on international migration**

Data from the National Tax and Customs Administration (NAV), the Ministry of Human Capacities (EMMI) and the Labour-Force Survey (MEF) are already used in the validation phase of data production. For validation purposes we recommend using the Microcensus2016, as well as making use of the results of the Turning Points of Life research project of the Demographic Research Institute (NKI). It is our goal to incorporate all of the above data



sources into migration data production, and to use them in the population register we had set out to build.

## 2.3 Area of intervention No.3 - Recommendations for dissemination activities

### **Boosting the HCSO database with new tables**

The Stadat database is the HCSO's public, static data table system. We feel it is necessary to feed more detailed data on domestic and international migration into the Stadat system.

As a first step we would put mainly longitudinal statistical tables on domestic and international migration that are already available into this database. Next we would examine the possibilities of including further data tables, determining the kind of tables that would be the best fit. We would also consider developing the Stadat database from the point of view of territorial units, such as including data on county-level (NUTS3), wherever possible.

### **Including new tables on domestic and international migration in HCSO Dissemination Database**

The HCSO Dissemination Database is a dynamic query system, where parameters must be set to make a query for public data. We propose a broadening of the types of data included in the domestic- and international migration database.

The most important task is to map out the most relevant themes of data, which should be uploaded to the Dissemination Database, such as data divided into age groups for foreign citizens, or migration data for Hungarian citizens.

### **Adding detailed migration data to the TEIR system (National Territorial Information System)**

## **Recommendations for dissemination activities of other organisations**

### **Integrated communication for in-, out- and return migrants**

We propose that a one-stop-shop online portal should be set up for handling the administrative tasks required of foreigners arriving and Hungarians returning to Hungary. This service should be integrated into the websites <https://ugyfelkapu.magyarorszag.hu>, <https://kormanyablak.hu> and/or <https://magyarorszag.hu>.

In addition, we propose that targeted informational materials should be created on the following two, strategically important topics:

- ***Informational material / online platform to assist the employment of foreigners***

Since 2017 Hungary has declared it a priority to employ immigrant Ukrainian and Serbian citizens who are seeking employment in sectors or occupations where workforce is especially lacking. These job-seekers may be employed without a prior examination of whether the job



can be filled by a domestic applicant. These checks normally mean that the local employment office looks into the case and examines whether there are any Hungarian citizens who are suitable candidates to fill the vacancy, before issuing a work permit to a foreign citizen.

[https://nfsz.munka.hu/Lapok/full\\_afsz\\_kozos\\_statiztika/stat\\_kulf\\_munkavall\\_mon/content/stat\\_kulf\\_mvall\\_mo\\_adatok\\_2017.pdf](https://nfsz.munka.hu/Lapok/full_afsz_kozos_statiztika/stat_kulf_munkavall_mon/content/stat_kulf_mvall_mo_adatok_2017.pdf) (p.5.)

It is planned that the Immigration and Asylum Office (BMH) would be authorised to issue work permits, while the final decision will be made by the district (*járás*) offices. Were information available on these matters online and translated into the applicants' native languages, administration could be smoother.

Similarly, in occupations where there is a shortage of workforce the translation of targeted advertisements into foreign languages would be useful. An example is the National Health Insurance Fund's call for applications to promote the relocation of general practitioners and dentists to difficult-to-fill jobs:

[http://www.neak.gov.hu//data/cms1022518/Haziorvosi\\_es\\_fogorvosi\\_letelepedesi\\_palyazat\\_2019.pdf](http://www.neak.gov.hu//data/cms1022518/Haziorvosi_es_fogorvosi_letelepedesi_palyazat_2019.pdf)

- **Return migration**

In November 2017 the Ministry of the National Economy (from 2018 Finance Ministry) posted on its website a detailed, high-quality document containing information for those wishing to repatriate to Hungary.

<https://nqmszakmaiteruletek.kormany.hu/download/4/fb/f1000/T%C3%A1j%C3%A9koztat%C3%B3%20a%20Magyarorsz%C3%A1gra%20visszatelep%C3%BCI%C5%91k%20sz%C3%A1m%C3%A1ra.pdf>

This document should be updated frequently and linked to as many governmental websites as possible.

In addition, the "Come home, youth!" programme has also issued an information leaflet on administrative tasks required upon return to Hungary, but the website is no longer working. We propose that the relevant information should be accessible and published on functioning platforms.

The National Health Insurance Fund 's informational leaflet also contains important advice, but the website's structure makes it difficult to reach these materials. In this case, we propose that an integrated and simplified version of the documents should be created:

[http://www.neak.gov.hu/elerhetosegek/ugyintezes\\_kalauz\\_mit\\_hol\\_hogyan\\_hu.html](http://www.neak.gov.hu/elerhetosegek/ugyintezes_kalauz_mit_hol_hogyan_hu.html)

## Upgrade of English-language websites

The information available on Hungarian governmental websites is very often only in Hungarian, which makes it difficult for foreigners to be informed.

Only the BMH and the Hungarian Treasury (MÁK) have websites with full English versions, and the Educational Authority(OH) has a dedicated website for the accreditation of diplomas in English (<http://www.naric.hu/>).

We propose that the following websites should be upgraded with English-language versions:

**Educational Authority(OH):** <https://www.oktatas.hu/>

(The page which is currently operational in English is [https://www.oktatas.hu/kepesitesek\\_elismertese/english](https://www.oktatas.hu/kepesitesek_elismertese/english), but there is no information about public schooling and there is no information in English on the main page)

**Ministry of Finance (PM):** <https://nfsz.munka.hu/Lapok/Default.aspx>

**National Health Insurance Fund (NEAK):** <http://www.neak.gov.hu/>

(Current content in English: [http://www.neak.gov.hu/felso\\_menu/rolunk/kozerdeku\\_adatok/tevekenysege\\_mukodesre\\_vonatkozo\\_adatok/a\\_szerv\\_feladata\\_alaptevekenysege\\_es\\_hatarkore/en\\_a\\_szerv\\_alaptevekenysege\\_feladata\\_es\\_hatarkore](http://www.neak.gov.hu/felso_menu/rolunk/kozerdeku_adatok/tevekenysege_mukodesre_vonatkozo_adatok/a_szerv_feladata_alaptevekenysege_es_hatarkore/en_a_szerv_alaptevekenysege_feladata_es_hatarkore)

as well as [http://www.neak.gov.hu/data/cms1004771/Health\\_Care\\_Services\\_Available\\_During\\_Temporary\\_Stay\\_in\\_Hungary\\_form.pdf](http://www.neak.gov.hu/data/cms1004771/Health_Care_Services_Available_During_Temporary_Stay_in_Hungary_form.pdf))

It would be especially important to have the following in English translation: [http://www.neak.gov.hu/elerhetosegek/uqyintezes\\_kalauz\\_mit\\_hol\\_hogyan\\_hu.html](http://www.neak.gov.hu/elerhetosegek/uqyintezes_kalauz_mit_hol_hogyan_hu.html)  
[http://www.neak.gov.hu/felso\\_menu/lakossagnak/ellatas\\_magyarorszagon](http://www.neak.gov.hu/felso_menu/lakossagnak/ellatas_magyarorszagon))

**Ministry of Interior (BM):** <http://nyilvantarto.hu/hu/>

**Government window:** <https://kormanyablak.hu/hu> (*responsibility of the Prime Minister's Office, more specifically the State Secretariat for Public Services*)

Further, an upgrade of the website of the Immigration and Asylum Office (BMH) should also be considered, as albeit there is information in English on administrative tasks, there is no English-language content related to statistics falling into BMH's remit. Similarly, we recommend that there should be an English-language version of not only administrative procedures but of statistical data on the Ministry of Interior's [Nyilvantarto.hu](http://nyilvantarto.hu) website and the Finance Ministry's [Nfsz.munka.hu](http://nfsz.munka.hu) website.

## 2.4 Area of intervention No.4 - Integrated approach to in-, out- and return migration

### **Review and renewal of strategic documents**

Currently Hungary has a migration strategy in force (government decree 1698/2013. X. 4.), which however has no chapters on emigration or return migration:

[http://belugyalapok.hu/alapok/sites/default/files/MMIA\\_.pdf](http://belugyalapok.hu/alapok/sites/default/files/MMIA_.pdf)

We propose that if the government plans to design a new strategy, issues of emigration and return migration should become subjects of policy negotiations, and that the new document should incorporate these subjects.

Further, Hungary has a Framework Strategy for National Sustainable Development, which highlights the necessity of immigration and calls for its regulation:

<http://www.nfft.hu/documents/1238941/1240162/Nemzeti+Fenntarthat%C3%B3+Fejl%C5%91d%C3%A9si+Keretstrat%C3%A9gia>

We propose that if this strategy is updated the aspects of emigration and return migration should be included here, too.

### **Setting up a committee on emigration and return migration**

At present, there is no unified government framework that would encompass the production, processing and use of data on emigrants and return migrants gained from administrative and other registers, statistical surveys or other datasets.

We propose that the government should consider setting up a permanent government committee which would coordinate the above enumerated tasks. In this way activities and a flow of information could be harmonised, which would contribute to a better and more grounded decision-making.

We proposed the committee should have delegates from the following institutions:

- Ministry of Interior,
- Ministry for Foreign Affairs and External Economy,
- Ministry of Human Resources,
- Ministry of Finance,
- Prime Minister's Office,
- National Health Insurance Fund (NEAK),
- Hungarian Central Statistical Office.

## **Planning and implementation of targeted research**

We consider it important that in addition to providing the numbers on the immigrant and emigrant population, an analysis of socio-demographic characteristics is carried out for all relevant groups.

Policies for diaspora and for the encouragement of return migration require targeted research on the emigrant population.

Further, we propose research on second and third generation immigrants as well as on persons with migratory backgrounds, in order to examine social integration.