Annex no. 1

NATIONAL STRATEGY ON IMMIGRATION 2021-2024





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CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

Human migration is a permanent, complex phenomenon, present throughout the historical spectrum of human society development. The multiple factors influencing and fuelling this situation are of different natures, while the effects generated can be found throughout society.

Considering the complexity of the migration phenomenon, its adequate management requires an integrated approach and the involvement of all relevant parties at national level. For this purpose, the Government established the Inter-ministerial Council for Home Affairs and Justice (*based on art. 1 letter a*) of the Government Decision no. 750/2005 on the organisation of permanent inter-ministerial *councils*), which coordinates the **Commission for Immigration Management**, hereinafter referred to as the **Commission**, which operates under the *Government Decision no. 572/2008 on the organisation of the Commission for Immigration Management*.

The main attributions of the Commission and therefore of the Territorial Structures are drafting the National Strategy on Immigration (SNI) project and the corresponding action plans, as well as supporting their passing and monitoring their implementation.

Since the implementation period for the National Strategy on Immigration 2015-2018 has passed, and during the period 2019-2020 the project of the strategic document has not been passed, it is necessary to draft a new strategic document, both due to the evolution of the immigration phenomenon, and due to the European requirements on the mandatory implementation of policies in this area.

The new National Strategy on Immigration is targeting the period 2021 – 2024 and establishes the principles and guidelines for regulating national policies on workforce admission, residence and immigration, the fight against illegal immigration, foreigners leaving the territory, the granting of certain types of protection to those in need and, subsequently, integrating them in the Romanian society. The activities used to implement the directions of action established in the Strategy are provided in the 2021 - 2022 Action plan for the implementation of the 2021 - 2024 National Strategy on Immigration.



CHAPTER II. RELEVANT GENERAL INFORMATION

The migration flow has been intensified in the past few years, due both to the economic development recorded in the Romanian economy, and the geopolitical volatility in the Mediterranean basin, as well as other factors, also generating security implications.

At the same time, Romania is facing a labour crisis, year after year recording an increased workforce deficit. Thus, the employment of foreign citizens has represented a measure attempting to cover a part of the said deficit. Every year a contingent of foreign workers newly admitted on the labour market is established and, in certain cases, following signals and information from employers, it may be supplemented. Due to very good macroeconomic figures, as well as to the permissive legal

system, oriented towards covering the deficit, the number of foreign workers newly admitted on the Romanian labour market for 2020 was 545,50% greater than that of 2016.

This trend has brought plenty economy benefits but, at the same time, has increased the pressure on the institutions directly managing the legal regime applied to foreigners in Romania. Thus, although the General Inspectorate for Immigration, part

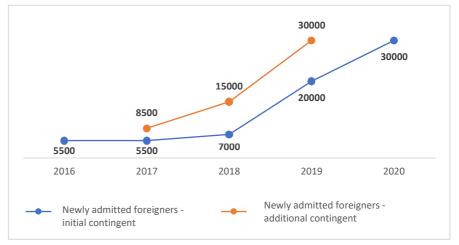


Figure 1: Evolution of the contingent of workers newly admitted on the Romanian labor market

of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, as authority with direct attributions in this field, has maintained the size it had in year 2016, the immigration phenomenon has gained greater proportions since then.

However, it ought to be mentioned that year 2020 has represented, due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemics, and especially due to the travel restrictions imposed, a special year for the field of migration and asylum at international, regional and national level.

Thus, the pandemic affected, both directly and indirectly, the situation in terms of migration for employment purposes. In this context, 2020, a year characterized by economic contractions that have influenced the national labour market, GII has received 28742 applications for the issuance of an employment permit, with 4889 less than the number of applications registered in 2019. Out of the total number of applications, 27453 have been approved, with the requested employment permits being issued, i.e. 3185 less than in the previous year. Out of the permits issued in 2020, 22307 were part of the contingent of newly admitted workers established for this year, which means that 74,4% of the target was achieved. By comparison, it can be said that in 2019, out of the 30638 permits issued, 29327 were part of the contingent, resulting in a 97,8% degree of achievement.

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One of the effects of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in the sphere of admission for employment, which has manifested due to the worldwide application of travel restrictions, was the increase in the number of employment permits issued for foreigners already present in the national territory. Thus, in year 2020, out of the total 27453 permits issued, 5146 were for foreigners in this category, amounting to 18,7%. By comparison, in 2019, out of the total 30638 permits, only 1311 were benefiting foreigners already present in the country (4,3%).

Travel restrictions imposed by the national authorities all over the world also affected the countries of origin of the beneficiaries of the employment permits issued. Thus, if in 2019 most employment permits issued benefited citizens from Vietnam, Nepal and India, in year 2020 most beneficiaries were from Turkey, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Most employment permits issued in 2020 were for the permanent workers category – 26267(95,7% out of the total).

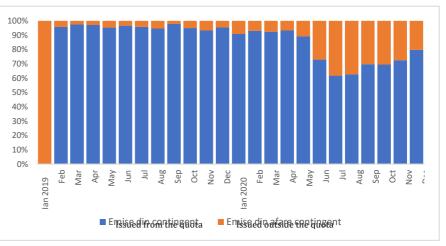


Figure 3: Evolution of the share of employment permits issued from the quota / outside the quota

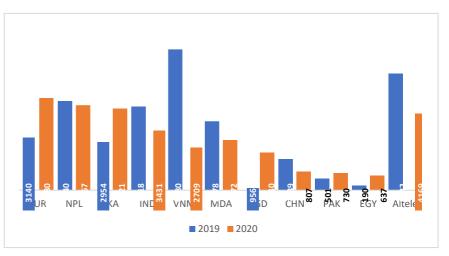


Figure 2: Evolution of the number of employment permits issued by the citizenship of the beneficiary (top-10 2020)

As year of reference, the data from 2020 indicates that in Romania the migration phenomenon involves a high degree of complexity and, at the same time, diversity. One can notice the growth trend for the number of citizens¹ for which the General Inspectorate for Immigration ensures the management of legal residence on the national territory. Thus, on 31.12.2020, the institution's records held a number of 136407 persons, with 19575 more than at the end of 2017.

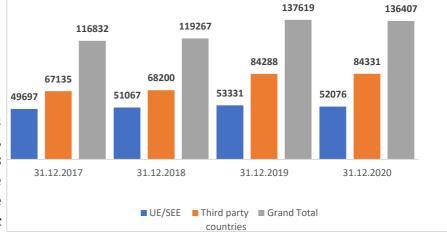


¹ Third-country nationals and Member States.

Out of the total 136407 people, 61,8% (84331 as absolute value) were thirdcountry nationals, while 38,2% (52076 as absolute value) were citizens of member states².

Considering the evolution recorded in the past four years. considering the fact that 2020 was marked by severe travel restrictions due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, and in the context of an expected economic

of foreigners who will establish their



recovery, it is estimated that the number Figure 4: Evolution of the number of foreigners holding an identification document issued by GII valid until the end of the reference period

temporary or permanent residence on the Romanian territory will grow.

In terms of security, migration may become one of the main threats Romania will face, when carried out illegally, and when the migration flow includes operatives, former members or followers of terrorist organizations. In fact, every year thousands of foreigners connected to terrorist groups and/or who carried out activities in their favour were identified at the border or after their access in Romania.

The countries of origin are very diverse, with a significant number of citizens coming from Moldova, Turkey, China, Syria, but also Italy, Germany or France.

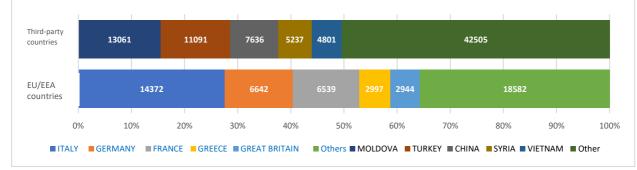


Figure 5: Share of the number of foreigners holding an id issued by GII valid until 31.12.2020



² The value also includes Great Britain as at 31.12.2020 it was still a member of the European Union

As a consequence, the increased migration flux has also generated an increase in the number of foreigners founding themselves in an illegal situation. Thus, in year 2020, 3519 cases of foreigners identified as illegally residing in Romania were identified, with 11,6% higher compared to 2019, the multiannual evolution over the last six years being an ascending one.

The evolution of the indicators was influenced both by the operational situation recorded in the western area of the country, at the border shared with Serbia, by the intensified control activities targeting the legality of residence in Romania, on the background of a growing number of foreigners coming to our country for employment purposes. Another factor that has influenced the positive evolution of the detections recorded in 2020 was the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. Thus, as the adjacent chart shows, the number of detections has increased constantly with the removal of restrictions imposed by countries on the Western Balkans route.

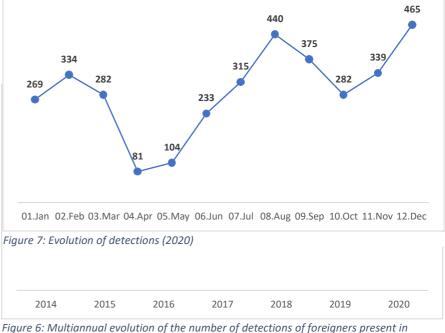


Figure 6: Multiannual evolution of the number of detections of foreigners present i Romania under illegal situations

In this context, indicators subsequent to the discoveries also recorded an increase in 2020. Thus 1241 foreigners were taken into public custody with the purpose of being returned under escort, 864 more than in the previous year, with a percentage increase of 229,2%. With regard to the number of returns under escort, their number - 1149, increased by 21.8% compared to 2019, when 943 people were returned.

In terms of international protection, the historical maximum was reached in 2020, with 6158 requests recorded, compared to the 2593filed in 2019 (137,5% increase). The greatest share was still held by citizens coming from areas facing internal armed conflicts or social and political issues:

Afghanistan – 2384, Syria – 1459 or Iraq - 415.

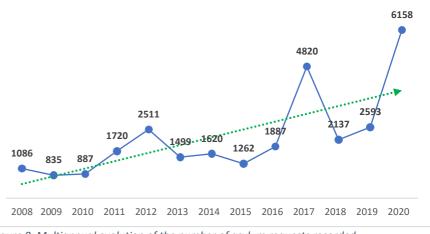


Figure 8: Multiannual evolution of the number of asylum requests recorded

With regard to the implementation of the Dublin III Regulation, in order to ensure the most eloquent image possible of the activities carried out in the procedure for determining the Member State responsible during 2020, we mention that during the previous year, the number of requests

received by Romanian authorities from the other member states has doubled compared to 2019 (2071 requests in 2019 and 4442 requests received in 2020), which represents a trend occurred in 2017 and maintained during the period analysed.

Romania remains in the attention of foreigners originating from states with active terrorism, as a place of transit or refuge, being present on several transit routes on the Middle East & North Africa / Afghanistan & Pakistan (MENA / Af-Pak) – Europe connection. Under the context of armed conflicts in those regions, there have been cases of individuals from European states - itinerant terrorists / Foreign Terrorist Fighters / Returnees - intending to transit the national territory to participate in the fight as members of various terrorist organizations. Thus, the number of requests received in 2020 by the Romanian authorities from other member states is greater than the number of requests received by the Romanian authorities in 2018 (2318 requests received) and 2019 (2071 requests received) combined. This situation is generated by the large number of foreigners leaving Romania after requesting international protection from the Romanian state or even after obtaining a form of international protection and arriving on the territory of another member state where they are either identified as illegal residents, or they request once more the protection of another member state. With regard to the requests sent by Romanian authorities to other member states, according to the provisions of the Dublin III Regulation, in 2020, 164 requests have been issued, maintaining the lower number of requests addressed by Romania, compared to those received by our authorities. Of these, more than 55% were accepted by the authorities of the other Member States, which highlights the good reasoning of the GII workers who have referred those cases, especially considering the fact that, in many instances, they did not benefit of the presence of the said foreigners, in order to interview them as grounds for the requests addressed, in many instances the foreigners disappearing before these interviews and arriving on the territory of other Member States. At the same time, we indicate the fact that, throughout 2020, the General Inspectorate of Immigration approved the temporary suspension of transfers from Romania to Greece based on Regulation (EU) No 604/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or a stateless person-for the foreigners eligible to be subject of this procedure.

Social integration is the process of active participation of foreigners in the economic, social and cultural life of the Romanian society. The policy on social integration of foreigners aims to provide foreigners residing or domiciling in Romania with the opportunity to gain a minimum baggage of knowledge and skills, mainly through Romanian language courses, cultural orientation and counselling programs that would allow them to also access other social services and rights under conditions similar to those applicable to Romanian citizens.

The measures provided by the law for achieving integration, as well as the priorities of the 2021-2027 Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion refer to facilitating access to a series of economic and social rights, such as the right to work, to education, to housing, to medical and social support, the right to integration programs. Each institutional actor within the current Commission for Immigration Management has carried out the actions necessary for fulfilling the attributions

established for this purpose. Thus, in 2019, 793 persons have taken part in the integration program.

Considering the statistics recorded, as well as the unpredictability of the immigration and asylum phenomenon, in relation to the national and European forecasts in the field, establishing a coherent policy and certain directions for action is a priority.

CHAPTER III. PRIORITIES, EXISTING POLICIES AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

III.1. National and European priorities and policies

The European Union and Member States define their short- and medium-term policies in the context of certain structural changes, such as long-term demographic evolution, lack of workforce in certain areas, the increasing competition for attracting highly skilled workers or based on the background of the immediate instability. More and more third-country nationals are choosing to come to Europe to work, study, as tourists, as service providers or in search of some form of protection.

National asylum policies will be adapted to CEAS³, considering both the changes proposed in the 2016 and 2018 Reform – Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Union Agency for Asylum and repealing Regulation (EU) No 439/2010 (EUAA Regulation), Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (recast) (Reception Directive), Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection and for the content of the protection granted and amending Council Directive 2003/109/EC of 25 November 2003 concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents (Qualification Directive) and the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Union Resettlement Framework and amending Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of the European Parliament and the Council (Resettlement Directive), and the amendments brought on by the new Pact on Migration and Asylum – Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of 'Eurodac' for the comparison of biometric data for the effective application of Regulation (EU) on Asylum and Migration Management and of the Resettlement Regulation for identifying an illegally staying third-country national or stateless person and on requests for the comparison with Eurodac data by Member States' law enforcement authorities and Europol for law enforcement purposes and amending Regulations (EU) 2018/1240 and (EU) 2019/818 (EURODAC Regulation) and Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (amended) establishing a common procedure for international protection in the Union and repealing Directive 2013/32 / EU (RPA), together with the completion of a proposal **repealing Regulation (EU) no. 604/2013** – Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on asylum and migration management and amending Council Directive (EC) 2003/109 and the proposed Regulation (EU) XXX/XXX [Asylum and Migration Fund] and with a new proposal -Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council addressing situations of crisis and force majeure in the field of migration and asylum (Regulation on situations of crisis and force majeure).



³ Common European Asylum System.

The progress carried out within the European Agenda has been highlighted annually through reports assessing the results recorded, these being emergent to the new Strategic Agenda adopted by the European Council in June 2019, which sets the direction and priorities for 2019 - 2024, through clearly defined objectives: efficient control of external borders, combating illegal migration and trafficking in human beings through better cooperation with countries of origin and transit, achieving consensus on an effective asylum policy, based on a balance between responsibility and solidarity, considering individuals debarked as a result of search and rescue operations, as well as ensuring adequate operation within the Schengen area.

Continuing the efforts of creating a comprehensive and sustainable policy, with a holistic and long-term response to the current challenges of illegal migration, the European Commission launched in September 2020 the new Pact on Migration and Asylum (comprising 9 legislative and non-legislative initiatives), which seeks to create a more robust governance at EU level in the field of asylum and migration, balancing the principles of balanced responsibility and solidarity sharing between MS, developing legal migration routes, new essential instruments for faster and more integrated procedures in the field of migration and asylum, together with a better management of the Schengen area and borders, with flexibility and crisis resistance, and for strengthening cooperation on migration between the European Union and key third countries of origin and transit.

With regard to the funding of actions for the management of the migration phenomenon within the entire European Union, the proposal for a regulation on the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) 2021-2027 targets funding for the actions of the European Union and of Member States, for ensuring an efficient management of migratory flows, in compliance with the relevant acquis of the European Union and its commitments on fundamental rights.

The fund will enable continuing the fulfilment of obligations towards individuals in need of international protection, facilitate the return of non-residents and support solutions that can put an end to illegal and uncontrolled migrant flows, proposing safe and well-managed migration routes instead. Furthermore, it ensures the implementation of objectives on: 1) strengthening and developing all aspects of the Common European Asylum System, including its external dimension,

2) Supporting legal migration to member states, including the contribution in integrating thirdcountry nationals and 3) fighting against illegal migration and ensuring an effective process for returning and readmission in third countries.

Coming as a novelty, the new financial framework will enable the funding through European Regional Development Funds and ESF+, of migration-related interventions with long-term impact, such as labour market integration and support for social inclusion, as well as rehabilitation and update of spaces available for temporary accommodation, managed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MAI) or of the structures coordinated by MAI benefiting the migrants.

The present strategy, as the main document in the field of migration, asylum and integration, presents the necessary degree of robustness to ensure predictability for the business environment, humanitarian organizations, international partners and other stakeholders in the field, but involves, at the same time, a certain level of flexibility, to ensure adaptability in the face of certain changes in the policy of the European Union.

Thus, in compliance with the commitments undertaken, and also with the national legislation and policies, Romania promotes a common European response and a comprehensive approach for managing the immigration phenomenon.

Romania plays an increasingly more important role on the international scene, proving itself capable of offering the necessary aid in supporting efforts against this phenomenon, by taking part in

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the missions of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and through exchange of expertise between the Romanian state and the Agency.

The European Asylum Support Office, which operates in the most challenged areas on the migration routes in the Mediterranean basin, enjoys significant support from the specialized authorities in Romania, on all lines of activity.

Through the Emergency Transit Center Timisoara, the Romanian state provides logistical support and human resources to the international organizations UNHCR and IOM, in an effort of contributing to the efforts of guaranteeing access to fundamental rights and freedoms of migrants globally. Furthermore, Romania shows solidarity with the European migration management efforts by taking part in the process of relocating migrants inside and outside the EU.

Regionally, Romania will improve cooperation with neighbouring states, especially by using European funds, both for combating illegal residence and work, and for international protection purposes.

Nationally, institutions with responsibilities in migration, asylum and integration make all efforts to create an *immigration system model* that would create cultural, social and economic benefits for Romania, but also consolidate measures for preventing and combating illegal immigration.

Furthermore, this system will ensure balance between guaranteeing the fundamental rights and freedoms of every human being, regardless of nationality, gender, race, ethnicity, political or religious orientation, as provided in the international treaties Romania is a part of, and the acknowledged right of the state to decide on the domestic policy in the field of legislation on foreigners and their legal regime.

First of all, the purpose of **legal immigration channels** must become an important component, in order to yield clear results, while also taking into account the current and future socioeconomic needs. Legal immigration is already an important component of the migratory flows to the European Union, and the adapted and enhanced cooperation in the field of legal immigration with the third countries of origin and transit of immigrants, may contribute to reducing illegal immigration, while offering safe and legal alternatives to the people who wish to immigrate, which may help fill in the gaps in certain sectors of the Romanian labour market.

With regard to the **issue of return**, there is a need to invest in the ability to mobilize all actors involved in the return procedures (such as law enforcement authorities in the field of immigration, the judicial system, as well as authorities with competence in the field of child protection, medical and social services) and to coordinate their actions, in accordance with their role and mandate, in order to ensure quick and multidisciplinary reactions for managing individual return cases.

Thus, in order to achieve an efficient return policy, the aim is to prevent the getaway, by detaining in public custody centres the persons who have received a return decision and who show signs that they will not observe it, removing inefficiencies by shortening the deadlines for appeals, systematically issuing return decisions without expiration date and combining decisions regarding the termination of legal residence with the issuance of a return decision. In parallel, emphasis will also be placed on the appropriate dissemination of information on voluntary return and reintegration programs.

The Romanian state is aware of the fact that, for the well-being, prosperity and cohesion of society, it is very important for **third-country nationals to be able to contribute economically and socially to the development of host communities**. Their rapid and successful integration will bring improved results to the Romanian labour market, a very important role being played by local

authorities and deconcentrated services. Thus, integration is a dynamic process in two ways, on one hand requiring the availability of the host society to integrate, and on the other the desire of the immigrate to be integrated.

Efforts to encourage local authorities and deconcentrated services, as well as institutions with responsibilities in the field of integration, social partners and non-governmental organizations will be continued, in order to fully make use of the existent partnership mechanisms. Organizations, especially the ones with innovative approaches, will be provided with as many opportunities as possible to take part in offering assistance complementary to that provided by government programs.

Among the values Romania promotes are **creating an equal treatment**, **correlated with an appropriate standard of life, for the asylum seekers, in accordance with fundamental human rights.** Furthermore, major attention will be paid by state institutions to the individual requirements for the reception and assistance of persons with special acceptance needs.

III.2. Existing legal framework

In the field of migration, the national legal framework is mainly represented by the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 194/2002 on the legal status of aliens in Romania, republished, with subsequent amendments, the Government Ordinance no. 25/2014 on the employment and posting of foreign workers in Romania and on the amendment and supplementation of laws governing the legal status of aliens, approved through Law no. 14/2016, with subsequent amendments, as well as the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 102/2005 regarding the free movement on the territory of Romania of citizens of the European Union and the European Economic Area and of the Swiss Confederation, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions.

With regard to the field of asylum and integration, the national legal framework is mainly represented by Law no. 122/2006 on Asylum in Romania, with subsequent amendments, and the Government Ordinance no. 44/2004 on the social integration of aliens who were granted a form of protection in Romania, as well as of citizens of the European Union and the European Economic Area and of the Swiss Confederation, approved with amendments through Law no. 185/2004, with subsequent amendments.

The main legal instruments existing within the European Union are:

1. **Regulation (EU) No 439/2010** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 May 2010, establishing a European Asylum Support Office (hereinafter referred to as the *EASO Regulation*);

2. **Regulation (EU) No 603/2013** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on the establishment of 'Eurodac' for the comparison of fingerprints for the effective application of Regulation (EU) No 604/2013 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or a stateless person and on requests for the comparison with Eurodac data by Member States' law enforcement authorities and Europol for law enforcement purposes, and amending Regulation (EU) No 1077/2011 establishing a European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice (hereinafter referred to as the *EURODAC Regulation*);

3. **Regulation (EU) No 604/2013** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or a stateless person (hereinafter referred to as the Dublin III Regulation);

4. **Regulation (EU) 2017/2226** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2017 establishing an Entry/Exit System (EES) to register entry and exit data and refusal of entry data of thirdcountry nationals crossing the external borders of the Member States and determining the conditions for access to the EES for law enforcement purposes, and amending the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement and Regulations (EC) No 767/2008 and (EU) No 1077/2011;

5. **Regulation (EU) 2018/1860** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 November 2018 on the use of the Schengen Information System for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals;

6. **Regulation (EU) 2019/1896** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 November 2019 on the European Border and Coast Guard and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1052/2013 and (EU) 2016/1624;

7. **Regulation (EU) 2019/1240 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019** on the creation of a European network of immigration liaison officers;

8. **Council Directive 2001/40/EC** of 28 May 2001 on the mutual recognition of decisions on the expulsion of third country nationals;

9. **Council Directive 2001/51/EC** of 28 June 2001 supplementing the provisions of Article 26 of the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement of 14 June 1985

10. **Council Directive 2001/55/EC** of 20 July 2001 on minimum standards for giving temporary protection in the event of a mass influx of displaced persons and on measures promoting a balance of efforts between Member States in receiving such persons and bearing the consequences thereof.

11. **Council Directive 2003/86/EC** of 22 September 2003 on the right to family reunification;

12. **Council Directive 2003/109/EC** of 25 November 2003 concerning the status of thirdcountry nationals who are long-term residents, as amended by Directive 2011/51 / EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2011 amending Council Directive 2003/109 / EC in order to extend its scope to beneficiaries of international protection;

13. **Council Directive 2003/110/EC** of 25 November 2003 on assistance in cases of transit for the purposes of removal by air;

14. **Directive 2008/115/EC** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals;

15. **2008/381/EC: Council Decision** of 14 May 2008 establishing a European Migration Network;

16. **Council Directive 2009/50/EC** of 25 May 2009 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of highly qualified employment;

17. **Directive 2009/52/EC** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 providing for minimum standards on sanctions and measures against employers of illegally staying third-country nationals;

18. **Directive 2011/95/EU** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection, and for the content of the protection granted (hereinafter referred to as the Qualification Directive);



19. **Directive 2011/98/EU** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on a single application procedure for a single permit for third-country nationals to reside and work in the territory of a Member State and on a common set of rights for third-country workers legally residing in a Member State;

20. **Directive 2013/32/EU** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection (hereinafter referred to as the *Directive on common procedures*);

21. **Directive 2013/33/EU** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (hereinafter referred to as the *Directive on reception*);

22. **Directive 2014/36/EU** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the conditions of entry and stay of third-country nationals for the purpose of employment as seasonal workers;

23. **Directive 2014/66/EU** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals in the framework of an intra-corporate transfer;

24. **Directive (EU) 2016/801** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of research, studies, training, voluntary service, pupil exchange schemes or educational projects and au pairing (recast);

25. **Commission Recommendation (EU) 2017/2338 of 16 November 2017** establishing a common 'Return Handbook' to be used by Member States' competent authorities when carrying out return-related tasks.

26. **Commission Recommendation (EU) 2020/1364 of 23 September 2020** on legal pathways to protection in the EU: promoting resettlement, humanitarian admission and other complementary pathways;

27. **Commission Recommendation (EU) 2020/1365 of 23 September 2020** on cooperation among Member States concerning operations carried out by vessels owned or operated by private entities for the purpose of search and rescue activities;

28. **COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION (EU) 2020/1366 of 23 September 2020** on an EU mechanism for preparedness and management of crises related to migration (Action plan for preparing against crises related to migration and its management).

CHAPTER IV. DEFINING THE PROBLEM

The migration phenomenon is dynamic, being influenced by armed conflicts, the changing climatic conditions, and the deterioration of living standards in certain third countries, factors which on their own or combined determine the constant change/adaptation of illegal migration routes and a constant movement of population.

Thus, in the field of migration and asylum, the following issues have been identified:



1. The capacity of structures within the Immigration Management Commission to efficiently manage the immigration phenomenon

The pressure exercised by the migration phenomenon can still be noticed in Romania. On one hand there are cases of illegal access or access based on false travel documents, while on the other hand there are immigrants that have legally entered the country based on a temporary residence visa, but failed to leave the state's territory after the expiration of its validity period.

This context requires the establishment of a clear national policy in the field, adapted to the one provided within the European Union, designing certain instruments that enable the implementation of integration measures, concomitant with the development of information campaigns regarding the risks involved and the benefits of legal immigration, as well as designing an efficient system for returning illegal immigrants.

Not taking such actions may add pressure on the capacity of public custody centres. Furthermore, the lack of certain instruments enabling integrated actions might lead to the development of the phenomenon of human trafficking and, implicitly, migrant trafficking, as well as the impossibility to dismantle networks engaged in such activities.

Although the quota for foreigners with access to the labour market has doubled in recent years, the size of the structures directly managing the legal regime of foreigners and the fight against their illegal residence has remained the same as in 2016. This entails additional pressure on the operational capacity of the said structures to ensure an efficient response against illegal migration, and essentially creates a niche for the occurrence of certain vulnerabilities in the adequate management of the immigration phenomenon.

Although in Romania no pattern was identified regarding the connection between members of terrorist organisations and illegal migration routes, the use of migration routes by individuals connected to the terrorist phenomenon was identified, even with implications regarding the pressure placed on the capacity of public custody centres.

2. Absorption capacity and the attractiveness of the Romanian labour market for foreign citizens

Despite the measures taken within the competent institutions, a shortage of labour is still identified. Thus, it is necessary to identify certain solutions for integrating workforce on the labour market, by carrying out information campaigns, drafting projects in the field, ensuring certain facilities for the acceptance and residence in Romania of qualified foreigners, acknowledging qualifications etc.

The establishment of policies in the field must target both the category of foreigners obtaining a right of residence in Romania, and of those who obtain a form of protection. Thus, these categories may contribute to employment, from jobs requiring a high level of specialization and lacking enough qualified workforce, to those that do not require a certain qualification.

The absence of certain measures in the field might contribute to the lack of benefits that immigration brings in stimulating economic development and approaching issues that the labour market must face, namely the shortage of skills and demographic change.

3. A national asylum system capable of permanently ensuring the fundamental rights and liberties of people requiring international protection

The economic and democratic gap between the European area and certain areas adjacent to the Mediterranean basin, combined with the possibility of certain armed, economic, or diplomatic conflicts, opens the way to refugee crises, which would prove challenging for the European asylum systems.



Taking advantage of the lessons learned from the crises of previous years, Romania is obliged to consolidate its current asylum system, so that it can face the multiple challenges that may arise in the next 4 years, while also ensuring the observance of fundamental human rights and freedoms.

4. The degree of information and awareness of the Romanian society on the dimensions of the immigration phenomenon

Another area that requires attention is that of informing Romanian citizens with regard to all aspects related to immigration. The latest incidents that have occurred in the public space prove that there is a gap between the realities/actuality of the phenomenon and the citizen's degree of awareness and information in the matter.

A lack of involvement in this area will significantly increase to risk of situations involving social tension, which may be speculated or artificially accentuated by hostile parties. In response, transparency and a constant and timely information from the authorities may counteract any hybrid instruments and determine a response from the public opinion based on data, statistics, and official decisions.

5. The need to verify the combatant past/potential terrorist connections of individuals arriving through illegal migration flows, which might include operatives sent to carry out tasks in Europe/former members of terrorist organizations, infiltrating in illegal migration flows.

Very frequently, migrants do not own any documents or use false documents, and the possibility of verifying their identity and past in their countries of origin (which are facing chronic insecurity, civil wars, terrorism) are low. In terms of security, the presence in migration flows of such individuals, in transit or wishing to settle in Romania, generates direct risks against the security climate by (1) establishing points of support for terrorist/jihadist organizations within the national territory; (2) testing routes of travel for the operatives and recruits of such organizations in/from the Syria-Iraq area; (3) radicalization of Muslim communities in Romania/Europe; (4) direct involvement in acts of violence or terrorism in Romania/Europe, considering the combatant experience/past.

CHAPTER V. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The national strategy is based on the following general principles:

a) **the principle of legality** – activities carried out for the fulfilment of strategic objectives are in full compliance with the law;

b) **the principle of responsibility** – the liability for implementing the National Strategy is born by each of the authorities and institutions responsible in the field of immigration, in their respective areas of competence;

c) **the principle of sovereignty** – reflects the right of the Romanian state to establishes policies regarding the admission, residence and return of third-country nationals with the purpose of promoting its political, economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian interests and observing the obligations undertaken through treaties, conventions, agreements, and conventions concluded with other states;

d) **the principle of cooperation and coherence** – involves active cooperation in drafting and implementing a common immigration policy of the European Union, as well as the correlation of the National Strategy with the measures and policies established in other member states;

e) **the principle of respect for fundamental human rights and freedoms** – all activities carried out by the authorities and institutions responsible in the field of immigration are carried out

with the observance of the provisions included in international conventions and treaties on the fundamental human rights and freedoms that Romania is party to;

f) **the principle of unitary action** - aims at the unitary implementation of the state policy and of legal provisions in the field of immigration, as well as a concerted implementation at all levels;

g) **the principle of transparency** – refers to the implementation of an active policy of informing and, as applicable, consulting the civil society with regard to the decisions and procedures applied in the context of immigration;

h) **the principle of partnership** – the active participation, involvement, and consultation of other relevant parties (non-governmental organizations, international organizations, UN agencies, academia, the private sector) in fulfilling the objectives of the National Strategy;

i) **the principle of equal opportunities and treatment between women and men** – expresses the commitment of implementing the legal provisions and guidelines contained in the relevant strategies, while taking into account the positive impact that the implementation of the objectives included in the Strategy may have on gender equality, non-discrimination, and accessibility;

j) **the principle of multiculturalism** – the presence of multiple individual characteristics, beliefs, ideologies, and habits in a relatively limited area.

CHAPTER VI. OBJECTIVES AND DIRECTIONS OF ACTION

A. General objective – The efficient management of the migration phenomenon

Specific objective A.1 - Promoting the conditions of entry, residence in and exit from Romania **Result:** Better information on legal migration

Directions of action:

- Informing foreigners, employers, authorities and other relevant categories of individuals or companies in Romania about the Romanian legislation on immigration;

- Informing citizens in their countries of origin, directly, through liaison officers (ILO) or through the Romanian diplomatic missions and the emigration authorities in the respective states, with regard to the Romanian legislation on immigration.

Specific objective A.2 - Simplifying the access of foreigners to Romania for employment/relocation purposes and developing the system enabling the access of investors from third countries on the Romanian market

Result: Reducing the labour market deficit and increasing the number of investors **Directions of action:**

- Permanent analysis by competent institutions of the current labour market and establishing annual quotas of workers newly admitted on the Romanian labour market according to the identified needs;

- Approving/negotiating bilateral agreements with third countries interested in having their own citizens admitted on the Romanian labour market;

- Stimulating employers in hiring third-country nationals that have completed their studies in Romania;

- Granting facilities by exemption from the fulfilment of certain conditions for the granting of long-stay visas and/or extension of the right of residence for the purpose of carrying out commercial activities.



Specific objective A.3 - Effective prevention and combating of illegal migration, illegal migration associated with terrorism, immigrant trafficking and labour exploitation of foreign employees **Result:** Ensuring a safer space for citizens.

Directions of action:

- Enhancing the collaboration between the competent Romanian authorities, for the prevention and combating of illegal immigration, immigrant trafficking and the undeclared work of foreigners;

- Increasing the efficiency and capacity to detect, transport, accommodate and return illegal immigrants;

- Preventing labour exploitation of foreign employees;

- Identifying, isolating, and separating operatives/former members of terrorist organizations, should they be present in illegal migration flows, and adopting specific prevention measures;

- Preventing the occurrence of certain actions threatening the national security, assuming that they are carried out by immigrants on the line of involvement in terrorist activities-(self) radicalization, jihadist propaganda, support of terrorist organizations or even violent actions.

B. General objective – Consolidating the national asylum system and ensuring compliance with European and international standards

Specific objective B.1 - The efficient processing of asylum requests, in compliance with the applicable national, European, and international legal standards.

Result: An efficient national asylum system, compliant to the applicable national and international standards

Directions of action:

- Providing interpreting, counselling, and legal support services to asylum seekers;

- Strengthening the quality control mechanism of the asylum procedure and updating the operational work procedures;

- Strengthening the dialogue between decision makers in the asylum procedure with the purpose of ensuring a consistent interpretation and application of principles and concepts specific to the field, as well as with the purpose of identifying and promoting good practices;

- Adapting the national legal framework, depending on the changes brought to the European acquis and continuing the development and strengthening of the mechanism maintaining a uniform and efficient practice in the processing of asylum applications at national level;

- Limiting abuses in the asylum procedure;

- Adapting national practices and procedures for the adequate processing of asylum applications filed by vulnerable persons and their referral to specialized services;

- Ensuring access to information from countries of origin to all parties involved in the asylum procedure.

Specific objective B.2 – Streamlining the process of determining the member state responsible for analysing the international protection application.

Result: Fulfilling the obligations undertaken by Romania under the Dublin system, in compliance with the European acquis.

Directions of action:

- Taking part in the implementation of the Dublin system and carrying out the procedures provided by the Regulation, in conjunction with institutional development along these lines;

- Continuing the development and strengthening of the system for combating abuse in the asylum procedure at national level;

- Improving the procedures for identifying asylum seekers without identification/travel documents, their family members and foreigners with illegal residence, as well as the procedures specific to vulnerable individuals and discretionary clauses for the application of the Dublin III Regulation;

- Developing the EURODAC data system with the purpose of optimizing the identification of cases subjected to the Dublin procedure;

- Strengthening the bilateral cooperation with member states that are part of the Dublin system.

Specific objective B.3 - Ensuring reception and assistance facilities for asylum seekers

Result: Providing asylum seekers with an adequate standard of life established at European level

Directions of action:

- Developing and implementing certain mechanisms for assessing and ensuring the quality standard of reception conditions;

- Ensuring reception conditions through the necessary resources from the budget and by attracting complementary resources and concluding relevant partnerships with representatives of the civil society (N.G.O.s) and international organizations;

- Improving the mechanism for early identification of vulnerable people and developing a mechanism for referral to state institutions with responsibilities in assisting vulnerable people (including victims of gender-based violence and domestic violence) and their specialization in the field;

- Developing the mechanism ensuring the fight against abuse in the asylum procedure at national level;

- Adapting reception conditions to the applicable European standards;

- Improving the assistance granted to vulnerable individuals and ensuring their monitorization.

Specific objective B.4 – Consolidating the mechanism of social integration of individuals who have gained a form of protection in Romania and of those with legal residence

Result: The active participation of foreigners who have gained a form of protection and those with legal residence in the economic, social, and cultural life of the Romanian society

Directions of action:

- Continuing the development of integration programs for people who have acquired a form of protection in Romania and those with legal residence;

- Knowing the situation regarding the integration of third-country nationals in Romania and the national legislation on the promotion of equal opportunities and treatment between women and men;

- Improving the mechanism for interinstitutional cooperation between the authorities/ institutions involved in the process of integrating third-country nationals;

- Promoting an education favouring social inclusion by adapting the legal framework to the specifics of migrant students and removing obstacles against the participation of minor third-country nationals in pre-school and school education by adapting to their specific needs;

- Raising public awareness with regard to the immigration phenomenon and the integration of third-country nationals by carrying out information activities and campaigns;



- Consolidating mechanisms for coordinating, monitoring, and assessing integration measures;

- Implementing practical instruments in the field of integration at European level;

- Continuing the integration activities for persons who have acquired a form of protection in Romania and those with legal residence.

Specific objective B.5 – Relocating refugees and asylum seekers and the temporary evacuation of people urgently needing protection in Romania and the subsequent relocation thereof

Result: Fulfilling the obligations undertaken by Romania in the field of relocation, at international and European level

Directions of action:

- Continuing the national refugee resettlement program in Romania and taking part in the European Union's common resettlement scheme;

- Active involvement in the mechanisms created by the European asylum authority;

- Concluding a Memorandum of Understanding between the Romanian Government and the International Organization for Migration for collaborating in the field of relocation;

- Identifying complementary ways of admission on the Romanian territory;

- Continuing to apply the Tripartite Agreement in Romania through the temporary evacuation of persons in urgent need of international protection in Romania and their subsequent relocation;

- Ensuring the promotion and transfer of expertise regarding Romania's practice in the establishment of the Emergency Transit and the development of the Tripartite Agreement in Romania towards other relocation states.

Specific objective B.6 – Developing cooperation with the European organism responsible for managing asylum-related issues and other European and international bodies.

Result: Managing asylum-related issues in compliance with the attributions of the competent European body and of other European and international bodies.

Directions of action:

- Supporting the activity of the competent body and of member states when necessary;

- Strengthening practical cooperation through an exchange of good practices with authorities in the EU member states and granting technical support in the field of asylum to third countries.

C. General objective – Strengthening the response capacity of the Romanian State in the face of an influx of immigrants at the border of the national territory

Specific objective C.1: Prior preparations and the unitary and integrated management of actions carried out under crisis

Result: Increasing the population safety level

Directions of action:

- Improving knowledge on the management of crisis situations generated by an influx of immigrants;

- Operational strengthening of the interinstitutional cooperation mechanisms for crisis situations generated by an influx of immigrants that might include members/adepts of terrorist organizations;



- Equipping the General Immigration Inspectorate with equipment and travel means and improving the physical infrastructure designed for managing crisis situations generated by an influx of immigrants.

Specific objective C.2: Taking part in the common effort for combating hybrid threats **Result**: Active participation in the process of maintaining national security **Directions of action**:

- Raising awareness among institutions with regard to the concept of hybrid threat.

D. General objective – sustained capabilities necessary for implementing policies in the field of migration, asylum, and integration of foreigners

Specific objective D.1: Developing/updating the physical infrastructure and increasing the mobility of G.I.I. structures

Result: Appropriate response to operative situations in the field **Directions of action:**

- Adding new infrastructures and accommodation and support services to the GII capabilities, as well as developing/updating the existent ones, sized according to necessities and the operative situation;

- Improving the IT&C infrastructure of institutions and authorities within the Commission for Immigration Management.

Specific objective D.2: Ensuring human and financial resources, with an emphasis on the appropriate sizing of operational requirements and on improving the quality of the services offered in the field of migration, asylum, and integration

Result: Operative capacity adapted to real needs

Directions of action:

- Developing the institutional and operative capacity of authorities and adapting to the evolution of migration indicators registered (human and logistical resources);

- Training the G.I.I. staff to extend the knowledge and skills of workers in specific areas of activity;

- Allocating human, logistical and financial resources to the implementation of new obligations attributed to Romania, necessary for collaborating with the European asylum authority, with the purpose of ensuring its capacity to fulfil its mandate;

- Continuing the training of staff from other authorities/institutions with responsibilities in the field of asylum and integration of foreigners.

Specific objective D.3: Accessing non-reimbursable external funds

Result: Increasing the standard of performance of the Commission staff and member connoluz structures

Directions of action:

- Continuing the management of the 2014 - 2020 FAMI National Program and of the 2014 - 2020 FSI National Program, as FAMI delegated authority and beneficiary;

- Attracting and using funds from the 2014-2021 Norwegian Financial Mechanism;
- Attracting and using EU funds from the 2021-2027 funding programs;

Specific objective D.4: Enhancing the dialog with the civil society and non-state international actors

Result: Increasing the institutional capacity of meeting the set objectives **Directions of action:**

- Promoting the National Immigration Strategy and its Implementation Plans, as well as the Commission for Immigration Management of the Inter-ministerial Council for Home Affairs and Justice, both nationally and internationally;

CHAPTER VII. MECHANISMS OF THE STRATEGY

The instruments for implementing the Strategy will be the two biennial plans: *The 2021 – 2022 Action Plan and the 2023 - 2024 Action Plan.*

Each plan will be elaborated based on proposals of the members of the Commission for Immigration Management and approved through a Government Decision. These will include details on how the general and specific objectives provided in the Strategy will be fulfilled, as well as the **activities** carried out, the **results** aimed at, the **deadlines** and the

institutions responsible for their implementation.

As it regulates a broad, growing phenomenon, the implementation of the Strategy will have multiple implications. The dynamic nature of immigration may generate the occurrence of concrete situations or phenomena, even with impact on the national security, which would require new national/European legal solutions, case in which each institution will be responsible to exercise its right to legislative initiative in its area of competence, and thus the implementation mechanism of the present Strategy will create the framework necessary for consulting and coordinating the institutions involved.

With regard to the financial implications, the financial resources necessary for implementing the Strategy mainly come from:

- Funds from the national budget allocated to each ministry and each institution with competence in implementing the Strategy, non-reimbursable funds dedicated to the management of migration, asylum and integration corresponding to the EU financial instruments in the field of Internal Affairs for the period 2021 - 2027, non-reimbursable funds approved at EU level under the cohesion policy for long-term integration activities, as well as other relevant external sources of funding, donations and sponsorships legally offered/accepted, as well as other sources.

The action plans for implementing the Strategy will specify the **sources of funding** necessary for fulfilling each action carried out.

Regarding the monitoring and assessment of the implementation of the objectives provided by the Strategy, each Action Plan will include **monitoring indicators** for each activity carried out. At the end of the Plan's period of applicability, the *Report on the performance of general and specific objectives* established in the provisions of the Strategy will be drafted and presented before the Government, then disseminated to the civil society and national/international partners through the main means of mass communication.



Actions

carried out

Both the Strategy and the Plan will allow amendments through a Government Decision, according to the major changes that may appear in the international or national context, and to the evolution of the operative situation. The initiative for amendment may belong to any member of the Commission.

In terms of fulfilling specific tasks established by the Action Plans that require public debates, the Commission, through its Technical Secretariat, may invite representatives of other authorities, as well as representatives of civil society or international organizations operating in the field of migration and asylum to its meetings.

Furthermore, if the topics proposed on the agenda require it, representatives of the European Union institutions, as well as experts from other member states may be invited to the meetings of the Commission.



Annex no. 2

<u> 2021 – 2022 Action Plan</u>

for implementing the 2021 – 2024 National Strategy on Immigration

The present document provides the activities for fulfilling the objectives established in the Strategy, falling under the attributions of the members of the Commission for Immigration Management. Thus, each direction of action is attributed one or several activities to be carried out, each provided with the targeted result, monitoring indicators as well as the deadline, responsible institution, and source of funding.

At the end of the period of implementation for the present Plan, the *Report on the performance of general and specific objectives established in the 2021 – 2024 National Strategy on Immigration* will be drafted and, after obtaining all necessary approvals, will be made public.

The present Plan provides 4 general objectives, 15 specific objectives, 53 directions of action and 126 actions to be carried out. Furthermore, it includes an explanatory note that will ease the understanding of the activities proposed to be carried out in the following two years.



Explanatory note:

| IGI - General Inspectorate for Immigration | ANC - National Qualifications Authority within ME MEAT - Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and |
|---|---|
| | MEAT - Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and |
| | |
| L L | Fourism |
| IGPF - General Inspectorate of Border PoliceU | UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for |
| IGJR - General Inspectorate of the Romanian R | Refugees |
| Gendarmerie C | CNRR - Romanian National Council for Refugees |
| IGSU - General Inspectorate for Emergency O | DIM - International Organization for Migration |
| Situations | Commission - The coordination group for the |
| DGPI - The General Directorate for Internal in | mplementation of the National Strategy on |
| Protection within the M.A.I. | Immigration, established based on the provisions of |
| DGMO - The General Directorate for Operational G | Government Decision no. 572/2008, with subsequent |
| • | amendments |
| - | BESA - European Asylum Support Office |
| | FRONTEX - European Border Police and Coast Guard |
| - | Agency |
| | SELEC - Southeast European Law Enforcement Center |
| 0 | EUROPOL - European Police Office |
| | FCNs - Third-country nationals |
| | FAMI - Fund for Migration, Asylum and |
| - | Integration |
| DCCO - Directorate for Combating Organized | CTU - Emergency Transit Center |
| | COI - Country of Origin Information |
| | EAC - European Asylum Curriculum |
| | CRPCSA - Regional Center for Procedures and |
| | Accommodation for Asylum Seekers |
| | CRI - Regional Center for Integration |
| | COM - The European Commission |
| | ANITP - National Agency Against Trafficking in Human |
| | Beings within the M.A.I. |
| | MAPN - Ministry of National Defense |
| | DGIA - General Directorate for Defense Intelligence |
| - | ANPIS - National Agency for Payments and Social |
| - | Inspection subordinated to MMPS |
| • | DGASPC - General Directorate for Social Assistance and |
| WIDLPA - WIDISITY OF PUDIIC WOLKS, Development | Child Protection |
| and Administration | DM/CO- Romanian diplomatic missions / consular |
| SIE - Foreign Intelligence Service | offices |
| SRI - Romanian Intelligence Service | |
| JAD - Joint Action Day | |
| | CIORNOHUZ BELENA-MÁDÁLINA BELENA-MÁDÁLINA BELLEZA- FRANCEZA AUT. NR. 32152 |

Commission for Immigration Management

| | Strategic objective A) The efficient mai | nagement of the migration | n phenomenon | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Specif | ic objective: A.1) Advertising the cond | itions for entering, resid | ing in, and leaving Romania | |
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding |
| A.1.1) Informing foreigners, employers, authorities and other relevant categories of individuals and companies in Romania on the Romanian legislation on | Organizing information campaigns to the benefit of foreigners/employers and authorities competent in the relevant field | Limiting illegal migration | No. of information campaigns No. informative materials displayed on the MMPS and GII websites No. of foreigners informed No. of employers informed | <i>Term</i> : According to the established calendars <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII , MAE via DC, MMPS via ANOFM, DPOCMP, |
| Romanian legislation on immigration | Training consular staff members within Romanian diplomatic missions according to the calendars of monopoly projects financed from FAMI funds | Enhancing the knowledge in the field of the consular staff within Romanian diplomatic missions | No. training sessions No. of people involved in Romanian diplomatic missions informed | Labour inspectorate <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| | Regional collaboration between GII and AJOFM offices, through information sessions targeting potential beneficiaries organized by the AJOFM offices, within Regional Integration Centers, upon the request of GII | Limiting illegal migration | No. of information sessions organized within Regional Integration Centers | <i>Term</i> : Upon request <i>Resp.</i> <i>party</i> : MAI via GII,MMPS via ANOFM <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| countries of origin, directly, through iaison officers (ILO) or through the Romanian diplomatic missions and | Carrying out information activities to the benefit of foreigners/emigration authorities in the state of origin/the diplomatic missions of these states in Romania, as well as of liaison officers dispatched to third countries | Limiting illegal migration facilitating the access of foreign citizens to information of public interest in the field of legal migration | No. of information activities/campaigns No. informative materials displayed on the MMPS and GII websites or provided to the authorities, upon their request No. of foreigners informed No. emigration authorities from the State of origin and their diplomatic missions informed | <i>Term</i> : Upon request <i>Resp.</i> <i>party</i> : MAI via GII,MAE via DC, MMPS via DPOCMP <i>Funding</i> : State budget External non- reimbursable funds |
| | Strategic objective A) The efficient mai | nagement of the migration | n phenomenon | _ |
| Specific objective: A.2) Sim | plifying the access of foreigners to Ro system enabling the access of investor | omania for employment/ | relocation purposes and deve | loping the |
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding |
| A.2.1) Permanent analysis by competent institutions of the current labour market and establishing annual quotas of workers newly | the institutions with competence in the field, for identifying labour shortages in Romania | Improving the knowledge of the current situation of the Romanian labour market | No. of annual analyses regarding the areas of labour shortage in Romania | Term: annually, in December Resp. party: MMPS ANOFM, DPO MEMORY Jia CIL |
| admitted on the Romanian labour market according to the identified needs | Annual drafting of the GD on the | Ensuring the control of the number of strangers entering the territory of Romania and limiting the number of foreign | No. of Government decisions proposed for passing | via GII Funding: State media manazi External reimbursable funds |

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| | | workers for which social security contributions are paid in the country of origin | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| A.2.2) Approving/negotiating bilateral agreements with third countries interested in having their own citizens admitted on the Romanian labour market | The participation of institutions and authorities members of CMI in the process of endorsing/negotiating bilateral agreements with third counties, in the field targeted by the Strategy | Developing the international collaboration between authorities with competence in the field of workforce exchange, inclusively by using immigration liaison officers sent to third countries | No. of bilateral agreements approved/negotiated | <i>Term</i> : 21.12.2021 <i>Resp. party</i> : MMPS via DPOCMP and the specialized directorates, ANOFM , MAI via GII, MAE , <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| A.2.3) Stimulating employers in hiring third-country nationals that have completed their studies in Romania | Promoting Romanian universities with the purpose of attracting foreign citizens, by favouring their remaining on the national territory and their access to a workplace requiring graduates of specialized higher education Developing cooperation with the ministries/ associations/ organisms interested in establishing the need of education/training of citizens from third countries, in the fields/ professions of interest | Ensuring the conditions necessary for attracting the categories of immigrants that can contribute in covering deficient areas or with an impact on the economic development | No. of foreign citizens studying in Romania No. of third-country graduates who choose to stay and work in Romania, in deficient fields | Term: 31.12.2021 Proposing entity: ME, MMPS,MS, MAI via GII Resp. party: MAI via GII, MAE Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| A.2.4) Granting facilities by exemption from the fulfilment of certain conditions for the granting of long-stay visas and/or extension of the right of residence for the purpose of carrying out commercial activities | Carrying out consultations between MAI, MAE and MEAT, with the purpose of identifying solutions for improving the Romanian economic environment | Improved Romanian economic environment | No. of consultations between MAI, MAE and MEEMA No. of solutions for improving the Romanian economic environment | Term: 31.12.2021 Proposing entity: MAI via GII Resp. party: MAI via GII, MAE, MEAT Funding: State budget |



| St | rategic objective A) The efficient man | nagement of the migration | phenomenon | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Specific objective: A.3) Effect | Specific objective: A.3) Effective prevention and combating of illegal migration, illegal migration associated with terrorism, immigrant trafficking and labour exploitation of foreign employees | | | | | |
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding | | |
| authorities, for the prevention and combating of illegal immigration, immigrant trafficking and the undeclared work of foreigners | The Romanian Gendarmerie supporting the General Immigration Inspectorate by using, upon request, of the staff within the county gendarme inspectorates and the mobile gendarme groups outside the area of responsibility, in order to: - ensure the transportation of illegally residing third country nationals with vehicles of the Romanian Gendarmerie (if the vehicles held by G.I.I. are not sufficient or appropriate) to the accommodation centers belonging to G.I.I./from one accommodation center to another; Accompanying the transportation of illegally residing third-country nationals should it be carried out with vehicles held by G.I.I., and accompanying and ensuring vehicles from the fleet of the Romanian Gendarmerie (if the vehicles of the GII are not sufficient), in order to ensure the transportation of illegally residing third country nationals, removed under escort up to the Romanian borders | cooperation between the General Immigration Inspectorate and the Romanian Gendarmerie | No. of support actions No. of foreigners transferred | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII and the Romanian Gendarmerie <i>Funding</i> : State budget | | |
| | Drafting and implementing: - The annual operative cooperation plan for preventing and combating the illegal migration of foreigners and the phenomenon of migrant trafficking _within Romania - The operative cooperation plan for identifying foreigners working illegally and fighting against the undeclared work of foreigners | ➡ High efficiency of the activities carried out in terms of preventing and combating undeclared work by developing collaboration between the institutions of the state | No. of foreigners identified with illegal residence No. of measures ordered No. of own and cooperative actions and controls carried out No. of activity assessment working meetings No. of foreigners identified as not having legal employment forms No. of own and cooperative actions and controls carried out in order to identify foreign employees working illegally and combating the undeclared work of foreigners | Term: Permanent Resp. party: MAI via GII, the Romanian police, SRI, Romanian Border Police and the Romanian Gendarmerie, MMPS via IM Funding: State budget | | |

| | | meetings | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Carrying out a large action for preventing and combating the migrant trafficking phenomenon, with the national participation of I.G.P.RD.C.C.O., I.G.P.FD.C.M.I.I.T. and G.I.I., and externally with the participation of partners from the Western Balkans Task Force, in compliance with the calendar established by EUROPOL – EMSC (the JAD dedicated to migrant traffic). | | No. of criminal groups dismantled No. of illegal migrants identified | <i>Term</i> : 31.12.2021 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII , the Romanian police and the Romanian Border Police <i>Funding</i> : State budget |
| Carrying out specific information collection activities in the area of migrant trafficking, in order to identify new criminal groups, methods of operation, safe-houses and routes used. | | No. of information collected and capitalized | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via the Romanian police; SIE <i>Funding</i> : State budget |
| Assessing risks, threats and vulnerabilities that can affect the decision-making process and the capacity to fight against the illegal migration phenomenon and migrant trafficking, including the specific cooperation framework, as well as formulating remedial proposals | Remedying, improving, updating the cooperation framework | No. of assessments carried out and disseminated No. of remedial actions | <i>Term:</i> Permanent <i>Resp. party:</i> MAI via DGPI, IGI, the Romanian Border Police, the Romanian police, the Romanian Gendarmerie, MMPS via IM <i>Funding:</i> State budget |
| Performing assessments regarding the grave risks against the climate of public order and the safety of the citizen, generated by potential antisocial actions or favoured by the presence of third country nationals within the community | Preventing the occurrence of public order disturbances Reducing the susceptibility of Romanian citizens to actions of misinformation that have as active subject the citizens or actions of the citizens of third states | No. of informative actions carried out | Term: Permanent Resp. party: MAI via DGPI, the Romanian police, the Romanian Gendarmerie Funding: State budget |

| A.3.2) Increasing the efficiency and capacity to detect, transport, accommodate and return illegal immigrants | Removing from the Romanian territory illegally residing foreign citizens, by the country's own means and through return operations organized/coordinated by the Frontex Agency <u>Voluntary assisted repatriation of foreigners</u> Introducing effective alternative measures to public custody, especially with regard to unaccompanied minors and families Participation in specialization / advanced training courses and Frontex missions Monitoring return activities targeting illegally residing third country nationals and taking part in the European system through liaison officers © Constantly equipping immigration structures with means for maintaining public order and ensuring the protection of immigration police officers. Ensuring adequate GII vehicles for the transportation of illegally residing third country nationals | Contributing to the insurance of the public order and safety climate within Romania Contributing to the commitments made at European level regarding the proper application of the Return Directive | No. of citizens forcibly returned No. of voluntarily assisted repatriated foreigners No. of joint flights that were taken part in No. of foreign citizens returned through charter flights (JRO) and scheduled flights No. of specialised individuals trained No. of staff members taking part in Frontex missions No. of monitored return operations No. of in touch with participants in missions | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| A.3.3) Preventing labour exploitation of foreign employees. | Information campaigns regarding the sanctions and measures applicable against employers violating the rights of their foreign employees; Campaigns informing foreign citizens of the rights they have as employees and the remedy mechanisms they can access in case of potential conflict/abuse situations occurring at their workplace; Diversifying the means by which access to individualized information and counseling is provided for RTT employees | Reducing the number of foreign workers labour exploitation cases. | Number of information campaigns carried out. Number of notifications submitted to GII/ITM/court of law regarding workplace abuse situations. Number of controls carried out by GII/ITM and number of measures ordered. | <i>Term</i> : Permanent Resp. party: GII, MMPS Funding: State budget |
| A.3.4) Identifying, isolating, and separating operatives/former members of terrorist organizations, should they be present in illegal migration flows, and adopting specific prevention measures | Carrying out joint training sessions to optimize the capacity to identify operatives / former members of terrorist; Providing SRI with indicators and elements that members of MAI must take into account when identifying relevant categories of individuals; | Preventing the entry into the national territory of persons suspected of terrorism | Number of training meetings Number of alerts issued Number of measures adopted | Term: Permanent Resp. party: SRI, MAI Funding: National budget |

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| Performing an exchange of data and information in order to establish the required legal measures. | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Carrying out the security interview, according to the provisions of Law 535/2004, with the purpose of obtaining data and information limited to the field of preventing and combating terrorism; Taking joint operational decisions, according to the legislation in force, after assessing the results of the verification measures carried out by SRI and MAI; Removal by MAI of individuals in relation to which such decisions have been made in compliance with the legislation. | Preventing the performance of terrorist activities within the national territory by individuals suspected of terrorism Removing from the national territory the individuals against which such a measure was decided, in compliance with the legislation in force Preventing individuals posing a potential danger to the national security from travelling within the national territory, in compliance with the law | Number of alerts issued Number of prevention measures adopted Number of persons removed | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI, SRI <i>Funding</i> : National budget |



| Compliance with European and international standards Specific objective: B.1) The efficient processing of asylum requests, in compliance with the applicable national, European, and international legal standards | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding |
| B.1.1) Providing interpreting, counselling, and legal support services to asylum seekers; | Updating the data base of interpreters, depending on the evolution of the operative situation, with the purpose of quickly processing international protection applications Training new interpreters identified in the field of adapting services to the target group Granting support and legal counselling to asylum seekers. | Interpreting ensured for Asylum seekers Granting support and legal counselling to asylum seekers | No. of contracts signed No. of interpreters trained No. of training sessions organized Number of asylum seekers counselled and legally assisted. | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| procedure and updating the operational work procedures | procedure carried out by GII and UNHCR based on | adequate and effective operation of the internal mechanisms for assessing the quality of the asylum | No. of assessment missions organized within GII regional centers | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| c.1.3) Strengthening the dialogue etween decision makers in the sylum procedure with the purpose of nsuring a consistent interpretation nd application of principles and oncepts specific to the field, as well as <i>v</i> ith the purpose of identifying and romoting good practices | and the public authorities, NGOs, international organizations and other interested parties involved in the asylum procedure in order to develop a unitary national practice | Asylum procedure improved based on the good practices identified | No. of consultations organized | Term: According to the calendar established by the project team Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |

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| B.1.4) Adapting the national legal framework, depending on the changes brought to the European acquis and continuing the development and strengthening of the mechanism maintaining a uniform and efficient practice in the processing of asylum applications at national level | legal framework, according to the potential amendments of the European asylum legislation Developing practical work instruments, disseminating them and training staff to use them | Streamlining the activity of processing national asylum requests The lowest possible number of cases in which the Settlement deadline in the administrative is extended, but no more than 15% of the total number of cases/year | No. of proposals for the amendment of the national legal framework, formulated (if applicable) No. of training activities for the GII staff No. of GII staff members trained No. and type of practical instruments disseminated | <i>Term</i> : Depending on the date of enforcement / date of application/ deadline for transposition of normative acts/ date of publication of practical working tools <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| B.1.5) Limiting abuses in the asylum procedure | Drafting/reviewing nationality tests Applying restrictive measures, if necessary Training relevant staff in identifying documents that raise suspicions of authenticity | | No. of decisions issued under accelerated procedure, at the border, deemed inadmissible No. of nationality tests developed/ reviewed No. of identifications based on linguistic analyzes performed, if applicable No. of restrictive measures ordered; No. of participants and number of training activities for the relevant staff for identifying documents that raise suspicions of authenticity | Term: Permanent Proposing entity: MAI via GII Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget, External non- reimbursable funds |
| B.1.6) Adapting national practices and procedures for the adequate processing of asylum applications filed by vulnerable persons and their referral to specialized services | Drafting, improving and implementing, under the coordination GII, the Mechanism for early identification and assessment of the needs of vulnerable individuals Training GII staff and the staff of other institutions/authorities or NGOs for the adequate implementation of the above-mentioned mechanism. Granting medical, psychological, social or other types of assistance, according to the needs of asylum seekers that are part of the category of vulnerable individuals. Creating jobs and employing within GII social workers with approval to practice the profession and registered in the National Register of Social Workers of Romania, trained to identify the target group and grant appropriate assistance to asylum seekers that are part of the category of vulnerable individuals, while observing legal provisions in the field of social assistance". | Efficient process for identifying and referring vulnerable cases | No. of social workers and other staff categories within NGOs, local authorities and other institutions | <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII ANITP, MMPS, ANDPDCA <i>Funding</i> : State budget, |

| Employing in the GII regional centres psychologists trained to identify the target group and grant adequate psychological assistance to asylum seekers that are part of the category of vulnerable individuals. | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| Developing Terms of reference and editing and translating into Romanian national reports for the first 5 countries of origin supplying asylum seekers, according to the evolution of the operative situation in Romania Drafting bimonthly newsletters Managing, accessing and updating the INDICIUM National Portal Organizing and carrying out a thematic seminar on ITO quality standards and newest developments, at national level. | documented decisions in the asylum procedure | No. of on point ITO answers provided through the national portal No. of country reports and of ITO thematic reports displayed on the portal No. of ITO pages translated No. of updating, access and maintenance sessions for the INDICIUM portal No. of asylum practitioners benefiting of ITO within the national seminar | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non- reimbursable funds |

Strategic objective B) Consolidating the national asylum system and ensuring compliance with European and international standards

| Specific objective: B.2) Streamlining the process of determining the member state responsible for analysing the international protection application | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding |
| implementation of the Dublin system and carrying out the procedures provided by the Regulation, in conjunction with institutional development along these lines | Organizing and monitoring Dublin transfers into | transfers in Romania and improving the development of the Dublin procedure at national level | No. of requests received from member states No. of responses sent by Romania No. of transfers actually carried out from member states in Romania No. of meetings/work groups/ seminars that have been attended by GII representatives No. of GII representatives attending the events described above | Term: Permanent Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget, External non- reimbursable funds |

| B.2.2) Continuing the development and strengthening of the system for combating abuse in the asylum procedure at national level | Identifying foreigners seeking international protection in Romania that are subject of the procedure for determining the responsible member state and organizing/monitoring their transfer | Responses accepted by Member States Performing Dublin transfers to the responsible Member State | No. of requests accepted by member states No. of transfers actually carried out from Romania to member states | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non- reimbursable funds |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| B.2.3) Improving the procedures for identifying asylum seekers without identification/travel documents, their family members and foreigners with illegal residence, as well as the procedures specific to vulnerable individuals and discretionary clauses for the application of the Dublin III Regulation | Drafting/updating specific procedures Developing a work instrument to establish operational standards and indicators used for identifying potential cases specific to the Dublin procedure Development of preliminary questionnaires adapted to the specifics of the cases | Identifying asylum seekers lacking identity/travel documents, their family members, illegally residing foreigners and vulnerable individuals that are subject to the Dublin procedure | Instrument developed at institutional level No. of cases identified No. of preliminary questionnaires adapted to the specifics of the cases | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non- reimbursable funds |
| B.2.4) Developing the EURODAC data system with the purpose of optimizing the identification of cases subjected to the Dublin procedure | Upgrading the Eurodac data system in compliance with the European legal amendments Extending the Eurodac data system at national level | requesting international protection and illegally | Number of EURODAC workstations purchased /improved nationally | <i>Term</i> : 31.12.2021 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : External non- reimbursable funds |
| B.2.5) Strengthening the bilateral cooperation with member states that are part of the Dublin system | Drafting the documentation on the conclusion of bilateral agreements with Member States under immigration pressure Exchanging data and information with Member States that are part of the Dublin mechanism | Supporting Member States under immigration pressure by taking over a certain number of asylum seekers Facilitating the application of the Dublin procedure at European level | No. of documentations developed No. of persons taken over from other member states No. of cases that have been provided with data and information exchanges | Term: Permanent Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget, External non- reimbursable funds ClornoHUZ ELENA-MÁDÁLINA NCLIZA- TRANCEZA NCLIZA- TRANCEZA |

| Strategic objective B) Consolidating the national asylum system and ensuring compliance with European and international standards | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| Specific objective: B.3) reception and assistance facilities for asylum seekers | | | | |
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding |
| B.3.1) Developing and implementing certain mechanisms for assessing and ensuring the quality standard of reception conditions | Creating a procedural regulation framework for carrying out activities for controlling/assessing reception conditions Identifying specific indicators for monitoring and assessing the quality of reception conditions at the level of each regional centre of procedures and accommodation subordinated to GII | Ensuring the quality of reception conditions | Work procedure developed Specific indicators identified | <i>Term</i> : 31.12.2021 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| B.3.2) reception conditions through the necessary resources from the budget and by attracting complementary resources and concluding relevant partnerships with representatives of the civil society (N.G.O.s) and international organizations. | Providing accommodation, financial support, medical assistance, psychological assistance, social assistance, counselling sessions and organizing cultural orientation sessions Ensuring and improving the transfer of international protection seekers between GII regional centres | Reception conditions adapted to the individual needs of international protection seekers | No. of asylum seekers that have benefited of: accommodation financial support medical support psychological assistance social assistance counselling sessions cultural orientation sessions No. of asylum seekers transferred between GII regional centres No. of transfer missions between regional centres | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| B.3.3) Improving the mechanism for early identification of vulnerable people and developing a mechanism for referral to state institutions with responsibilities in assisting vulnerable people (including victims of gender-based violence and domestic violence) and their specialization in the field | Training GII staff and the staff of other institutions with attributions in the support of vulnerable individuals among asylum seekers Drafting a procedure for identifying and supporting vulnerable individuals among asylum seekers, at GII level Initial assessment of individuals identified as potential victims of human trafficking Joint development of activities related to the referral for assistance of migrants identified as victims of human trafficking Improving, monitoring and assessing the assistance received by vulnerable individuals referred to competent institutions | High capacity for early identification of vulnerable people | No. of individuals trained within GII and other competent institutions No. of vulnerable asylum seekers identified and assisted Procedure developed and approved within GII No. of initial assessments No. of actions carried out No. of follow-up actions | Term: Permanent Resp. party: MAI via GII, MMPS, ANDPDCA and ANITP Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |

| B.3.4) Developing the mechanism ensuring the fight against abuse in the asylum procedure at national level | | ♣ Limiting abuse within the asylum procedure | No. of people for whom the measure of limiting /withdrawing the material conditions for receival in the Regional Procedures and Accommodation Centres for Asylum Seekers has been taken Total amount: | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII , MMPS, DGASPC <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| B.3.5) Adapting reception conditions to the applicable European standards | Developing the accommodation infrastructure of regional centres appointed to receive asylum seekers, also by adapting accommodation conditions to the needs of vulnerable groups Creating accommodation spaces and adapting services provided in placement centres to unaccompanied minors seeking asylum and minors benefiting from a form of protection | Reception conditions comply with individual needs | Upgrade and rehabilitation works carried out in GII regional centres No. of openings available in placement centres allocated to unaccompanied minors seeking asylum and minors benefiting from a form of protection | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII , DGASPC <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| ensuring their monitorization | Ensuring the legal representation of unaccompanied minors seeking asylum and minor refugees, including those accommodated in GII reception centers, in relation with all authorities competent in the field of child assistance and protection (such as education, health, social assistance etc.) Ensuring case management services for unaccompanied minors seeking asylum and minor refugees. Ensuring interpreting services for unaccompanied minors in placement centers. Monitoring specific assistance granted to unaccompanied minors. Ensuring the payment of state allowance to residing minors, according to the law. Granting non-reimbursable aid to refugees, in accordance with the national law. | All unattended minors benefit of efficient legal representation and case management | minors that have been provided legal representation | Term: Permanent Resp. party: MMPS via DGASPCs, MAI via GII , ANPIS Funding: State budget |

| Strategic objective B) Consolidating the national asylum system and ensuring compliance with European and international standards Specific objective: B.4) Consolidating the mechanism of social integration of individuals who have | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| Directions of action | gained a form of protection in Roma Actions carried out | Results | al residence Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding | | |
| B.4.1) Continuing the development of integration programs for people who have acquired a form of protection in Romania and those with legal residence | regional centres, the authorities with attributions in the field of integration and NGOs carrying out projects Cooperation of NGOs with integration officers within GII regional centres by: taking part in interviews with members of the target group establishing the joint individual integration plan GII-beneficiary-NGO Organizing and carrying out Romanian language introductory classes, according to the methodologies in force Granting assistance and support for the integration on the labour market of people benefiting from a form of protection and those legally residing in Romania, by developing certain mechanism for acknowledging the qualifications of refugees and facilitating the participation of integration of the dilitation participation of protection and those legally residing in Romania, by developing certain mechanism for acknowledging the qualifications of refugees and facilitating the participation of participation of | through the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund Intensifying the collaboration between GII and the NGOs carrying out projects Specific assistance granted to each person in the target group | No. of coordination meetings with local authorities and NGOs that implement projects No. of individual plans established jointly between GII – beneficiary and NGOs No. of individuals assisted within the integration program | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | | |
| | | Ensuring the participation of individuals benefiting of a form of legal protection and of legal residence to Romanian language introductory courses People that have gained a form of protection and those legally residing in Romania to be included in employment and training programs | No. of people benefiting of international protection taking part in employment and | Term: Permanent Resp. party: ME Funding: State budget Term: Permanent Resp. party: MMPS via ANOFM, ME and ANC Funding: State budget | | |
| B.4.2) Knowing the situation regarding the integration of third-country nationals in Romania and the national legislation on the promotion of equal opportunities and treatment between women and men | Drafting researches, analyses and studies in the field of integration and of promoting equal opportunities and treatment in partnership with other public institutions or the private sector Development of the online platform to ensure the implementation of integration-specific indicators Elaboration of the Annual Report on the integration of foreigners with a form of protection | Integration | studies carried out / drafted or ongoing | Term: Permanent Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | | |

| B.4.3) Improving the mechanism for interinstitutional cooperation between the authorities/ institutions involved in the process of integrating third-country nationals | Carrying out training activities for staff in public institutions on legislative changes in the field of integration and for the use and input of data according to the platform | Creating local support networks in the field of integration | No. of representatives from institutions responsible in the field of integration, taking part in specialized training sessions No. of training activities | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| B.4.4) Promoting an education favouring social inclusion by adapting the legal framework to the specifics of migrant students and removing obstacles against the participation of minor third-country nationals in pre-school and school education by adapting to their specific needs | Reviewing/completing certain internal normative acts for schooling at the level of pre- university education | ♣ The legal framework adapted to social inclusion | No. of legal framework amendment and completion proposals | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : ME <i>Funding</i> : State budget |
| B.4.5) Raising public awareness with regard to the immigration phenomenon and the integration of third-country nationals by carrying out information activities and campaigns | Awareness campaign, promoted through media channels (print media, internet, radio TV, social networks) Development and distribution of leaflets in cities in the country with important communities of foreigners, creation and display of banners / posters on billboards Research among the population | immigration and the integration of third-country nationals Knowledge of the public image of foreigners in the Romanian society | Nr. appearances on media channels (print media, internet, radio and TV) No. of flyers, banners and posters designed and distributed Research regarding the perception of the local population towards third- country nationals | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| B.4.6) Consolidating mechanisms for coordinating, monitoring, and assessing integration measures | Development of a common set of indicators on evaluation of integration, in areas such as: employment, education, social inclusion | High-performance High-performance | established for the assessment of the | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| | Developing modern tools for language assessment and online learning of the Romanian language for third-country nationals in Romania | C C | descriptors developed in compliance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages | Term: Permanent Resp. party: MAI via GII, ME through the officially appointed institution(s) Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds CORNOHUZ ELENA-MADALINA BULLZA- FRANCERA |

| Strategic objective B) Consolidating the national asylum system and ensuring compliance with European and international standards Specific objective: B.5) Relocating refugees and asylum seekers and the temporary evacuation of people | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| Specific obj | ective: B.5) Relocating refugees and as urgently needing protection in Romai | | | ople | | |
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding | | |
| B.5.1) Continuing the national refugee resettlement program in Romania and taking part in the European Union's common resettlement scheme | Carrying out the activities deriving from the commitments assumed by Romania regarding the resettlement, in the period 2020-2021, of the quota of 200 refugees from Turkey, Jordan o Lebanon Taking part in the establishment of annua resettlement plans and in the adoption of specific resettlement schemes at EU level Participation in the meetings of the High Leve Relocation Committee chaired by the European Commission and in the working groups organized on this subject by UNHCR and EUAA | e made by Romania e Romania's active participation in the international community's c efforts regarding the extra-EU resettlement process of third- l country nationals | No. of individuals selected No. of individuals relocated No. of meetings attended | <i>Term</i> : According to the established calendars <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII , DGAESRI <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | | |
| B.5.2) Active involvement in the mechanisms created by the European asylum authority | Organizing relocation operations through facilities developed by EUAA, subject to availability | | No. of activities carried out through EUAA facilities | <i>Term</i> : 31.12.2021 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | | |
| B.5.3) Concluding a Memorandum of Understanding between the Romanian Government and the International Organization for Migration for collaborating in the field of relocation | Establishing responsibility in relocation operations regarding: GII selection missions in first asylum states, implementation of pre- departure cultural orientation programs, medical evaluation for travel and transfer to Romania | Streamlining the relocation process | Memorandum of Understanding concluded | <i>Term</i> : 31.12.2021 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII , MAE <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | | |
| B.5.4) Identifying complementary ways of admission on the Romanian territory | Identifying complementary ways of admission in Romania Adapting the national legal framework | Extending the methods for admitting in Romania people requiring relocation | Solutions proposed for extending the methods of admitting in Romania third country nationals in need of relocation | Term: According to the established calendars Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | | |
| B.5.5) Continuing to apply the Tripartite Agreement in Romania through the temporary evacuation of persons in urgent need of international protection in Romania and their subsequent relocation | Romania's fulfilment of its obligations regarding the temporary evacuation of persons in urgent need of international protection | Efficient management of the issue of refugees temporarily evacuated in Romania | No. of refugees evacuated in Romania No. of refugees subsequently relocated in other states | Term: Permanent Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget External non-reimbur sables. MAA funds | | |

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| transfer of expertise regarding Romania's practice in the establishment of the Emergency | | Promoting the image of Romania as a state of good practice in the field of temporary evacuation of persons in urgent need of international protection | No. of activities attended | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
|--|--|---|----------------------------|--|
|--|--|---|----------------------------|--|

| Strategic objective B) Consolidating the national asylum system and ensuring | |
|--|--|
| compliance with European and international standards | |

Specific objective: B.6) Developing cooperation with the European organism responsible for managing asylum-related issues and other European and international bodies

| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| B.6.1) Supporting the activity of the competent body and of member states when necessary. | Participation in support missions for EU Member States organized under the auspices of the responsible authority, the meetings of the Board of Directors and the working groups organized within it | Applying the principle of solidarity Supporting asylum systems in Member States in difficulty | No. of experts relocated within operational support missions No. of member states | Term: According to the established calendars Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| B.6.2) Strengthening practical cooperation through an exchange of good practices with authorities in the EU member states and granting technical support in the field of asylum to third countries | Participation in meetings organized under experience / expertise and good practices exchange programs with authorities from other EU countries Participation in sessions / meetings / working groups organized on the line of providing technical assistance to third countries in the field of asylum | procedure and/or ensuring | No. of activities that have been taken part in No. of representatives attending the meetings | Term: According to the established calendars Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |

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Strategic objective C) Strengthening the response capacity of the Romanian State in the face of an influx of immigrants at the border of the national territory, generated by political, social, economic, military crises or by a natural disaster or as a result of considerable destruction or damage of a critical structure

| Specific objecti | Specific objective: C.1) Prior preparations and the unitary and integrated management of actions carried out under crisis | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding | |
| on the management of crisis situations generated by an influx of immigrants | Organizing working groups, planning and carrying out activities such as alerting / testing operational capacity exercises, simulating various scenarios in correlation with predictions and operational evolution, to verify hypotheses included or that may be included in the planning documents at M.A.I. level in the field of immigration | Verifying the viability of the hypotheses included or that can be included in the planning documents at the level of M.A.I. Testing the level of reaction, information and decision flows Elaboration of proposals for remediation / improvement of existing formats and implementation of lessons learned | testablished No. of scenarios planned and tested No. of remedial/improvement proposals drafted No. of lessons identified | <i>Term</i> : annually <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via DGMO, GII, the Romanian Border Police, the Romanian police, the Romanian Gendarmerie, DGPI and IGSU <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | |
| | Carrying out early warnings or stage assessments on the evolution of the migration phenomenon with an impact on EU Member States, with a focus on identifying trends | Improving knowledge on migration sources, triggers / facilitators, routes and countries of destination | No. of analytical products made and disseminated | <i>Term</i> : Permanent <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via DGPI, IGI, IGPF; SIE. <i>Funding</i> : State budget | |
| | Constant and timely information of decision makers about intentions, routes and destinations targeted by illegal migrants | national interests Fighting against hostile/panic-stricken narratives, through which the public can be led to | | Term: Permanent Resp. party: MAI via DGPI, GII, the Romanian Border Police, the Romanian police and the Romanian Gendarmerie; SIE Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | |

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Commission for Immigration Management

| | Thematic training of the staff of the institutions and authorities within the Commission for Immigration Management, as well as of the territorial / county / municipal administrative units, in the field of crisis situations | High level of knowledge in the field of crisis situations | No. of training activities No. of individuals trained | <i>Term</i> : annually <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII , the Romanian police, the Romanian Gendarmerie, the Romanian Border Police <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| C.1.2) Operational strengthening of the interinstitutional cooperation mechanisms for crisis situations generated by an influx of immigrants that might include | Elaboration and presentation to decision-makers of specific analyses for the assessment of risks and operational situations in the field of migration and asylum, as well as substantiation of proposals to amend a specific legislation, if necessary | Substantiating decisions made by decision-makers Beneficial legislative amendments in the field of migration and asylum, if necessary | No. of information sources capitalized No. of analyses carried out No. of decision-makers benefiting from the analyses No. proposals for modifying the specific legislation | <i>Term</i> : 31.12.2021 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via DGMO, GII, the Romanian police, DGPI and the Romanian Border Police; SRI; SIE. <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| members/adepts of terrorist organizations | Elaboration of the National Action Plan for the organization and planning of activities, in the context of increasing the capacity to effectively manage uncontrolled population movements | Efficient response in the field of uncontrolled movements of masses | Plan drafted and sent for approval | <i>Term</i> : 01.04.2021 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via IGSU <i>Funding</i> : State budget |
| | Elaboration and promotion for endorsement / approval in the Supreme Council of National Defence of the National Concept on the efficient management of uncontrolled population movements | Effective response in the field of uncontrolled population movements | Concept developed and promoted for endorsement / approval | <i>Term</i> : 31.12.2021 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via IGSU, DGMO <i>Funding</i> : State budget |
| Immigration Inspectorate with | Creating and equipping an operational center for the management of crisis situations caused by an influx of immigrants, with modern IT equipment and furniture; Equipping territorial structures in the areas at high risk of an influx of immigrants, with vehicles with audio-video recording techniques and means of communication with the operational centre intended for such situations Equipping the General Inspectorate for Immigration with mobile camp infrastructure, with a high degree of versatility in terms of transport, installation and | Operational decisions substantiated and thoroughly documented with data and information collected in real time Increasing the accommodation capacity of GII in crisis situations | Number of initiatives to absorb non-reimbursable external funds | <i>Term</i> : 31.12.2022 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
| | operationalization | | | |



| Strategic objective C) Strengthening the response capacity of the Romanian State in the face of |
|---|
| an influx of immigrants at the border of the national territory |

Specific objective: C.2) Taking part in the common effort for combating hybrid threats

| | opecate objective, all j runing pare in the common enoreror combating hybrid threads | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding | |
| C.2.1) Raising awareness among institutions with regard to the concept of hybrid threat. | Creating files with awareness-rising documents on the issue, at the level of each M.A.I. structure with responsibilities in managing the migration phenomenon Establishing a channel through which the best practices associated with the management of situations in which the presence (including imminent or expected) of large masses of migrants on the national territory has been speculated by a hostile actor can be communicated to the competent institutions | awareness Integrated approach (whole of government) to the issue Counteracting hostile narratives focused on | drafted No. of good practices disseminated and nationally adapted and implemented, respectively | <i>Term</i> : According to the established calendars <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via DGPI, GII, the Romanian police, the Romanian Border Police, the Romanian Gendarmerie <i>Funding</i> : State budget | |



| Strategic objective D) sustained capabilities necessary for implementing policies in the field of migration, asylum, and integration of foreigners | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| Specific objectiv | ve: D.1) Developing/updating the physical i | infrastructure and ir | ncreasing the mobility of G.I.I | . structures | |
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding | |
| operative situation | Modernization / adaptation / development of infrastructure and licensing of social services for asylum seekers, beneficiaries of international protection and of foreigners taken into public custody, including persons with disabilities Identification and implementation of new physical infrastructures and accommodation services, also adapted to the specific access needs of people with disabilities Analyzing the opportunity and, if necessary, developing one-stop shops | Modern material capabilities and services, adapted to new social realities Increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of specific activities, by reducing the material and financial | No. of works for extending /upgrading the GII physical infrastructure No. of new accommodation infrastructure works | <i>Term</i> : 31.12.2022 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | |
| | Granting the centres of procedures and accommodation of asylum seekers, including the newly established ones, the quality of tertiary authorizing officer, in order to ensure the spending of directly and legally available funds | resources used, as well as the reaction time in case of certain categories of | as well as the acco reaction time in seek case of certain auth | Nr. procedures and accommodation centers for asylum seekers appointed as tertiary authorizing officer | Term: 31.12.2021 Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget |
| | Logistic and financial insurance of all territorial structures, by taking over their financing by the secondary and tertiary authorizing officer at GII level, given that the territorial structures for immigration are ensured, from a logistical point of view, by the county police inspectorates. | | No. of county immigration structures provided with logistic and financial support by the secondary and tertiary authorizing officer | <i>Term:</i> 31.12.2021 <i>Resp. party:</i> MAI via GII, IGPR, DGL <i>Funding:</i> State budget | |
| | Carrying out the steps for identifying / creating a building corresponding to the operationalization of an Integrated Operational Center, in which the GII central structures would function | Efficiency in the immigration phenomenon management process | No. communications transmitted | Term: 31.12.2021 Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | |

| | Proper equipment of GII structures with means of mobility | 4 Increasing mobility and performance | No. of means of mobility purchased | <i>Term:</i> 31.12.2021 <i>Resp. party:</i> MAI via GII <i>Funding:</i> State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| D.1.2) Improving the IT&C infrastructure of institutions and authorities within the Commission for Immigration Management | Upgrading the Alien Management Information System and the Electronic Document Management System | Modern IT&C infrastructure adapted to operational needs | No. of IT equipment items purchased No. of operational SEA access modules No. of modules developed/created Implemented and operational document issuance system No. of technical changes | - |
| | Updating and adapting the Alien Management Information System to connect to the European Entry- Exit System (EES) | | | |
| | Equipping immigration structures with tablet-type mobile devices with the function of taking, interrogating and transmitting photos and fingerprints in NIST format | | | |
| | Improving data exchange between SIMS and SNIV | | | |
| | Creating modules dedicated to the workflow with the SIRENE office | | | |
| | Increasing the security of the immigration IT&C infrastructure | | | |
| | Implementing the unitary system for issuing temporary identity documents in the form of cards and connecting it to SIMS | | | |
| | Improving the security and reducing the administrative burden of EURODAC by implementing new technical standards | | | |
| | Upgrading the Data Center if the General Immigration Inspectorate | | | |
| | Equipping work spaces with modern equipment, adequate for the evolution of the operative situation | | | |



| Strategic objective D) sustained capabilities necessary for implementing policies in the field of migration, asylum, and integration of foreigners | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| requirements | Specific objective: D.2) Ensuring human and financial resources, with an emphasis on the appropriate sizing of operational requirements and on improving the quality of the services offered in the field of migration, asylum, and integration | | | | | |
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding | | |
| D.2.1) Developing the institutional and operative capacity of authorities and adapting to the evolution of migration indicators registered (human and logistical resources) | Supplementing the organizational reports of the structures Filling vacancies | Structures dimensioned according to actual requirements; High quality services | No. of newly created jobs No. of vacant jobs occupied | <i>Term</i> : According to the established calendars <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via DGMRU, DGMO, DGF and GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget | | |
| to extend the knowledge and skills of workers in specific areas of activity | Training of GII staff in a formal context, through courses and training programs within educational institutions or carried out by authorized vocational training providers, as well as in a non-formal context, through activities organized within GII structures | Development of skills in GII specific areas of activity | No. of activities organized No. of participants | <i>Term</i> : According to the established calendars <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | | |
| D.2.3) Allocating human, logistical and financial resources to the implementation of new obligations attributed to Romania, necessary for collaborating with the European asylum authority, with the purpose of ensuring its capacity to fulfil its mandate | | Timely provision of financial resources to operative structures for the achievement of specific missions | No. of financial analyses carried out for credit transfers Value of expenses covered by the state budget Value of expenses covered by External non-reimbursable funds. | <i>Term</i> : According to the established calendars <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII , <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | | |
| D.2.4) Continuing the training of staff from other authorities/institutions with responsibilities in the field of asylum and integration of foreigners | Training activities for staff members of other authorities/institutions with responsibilities in the asylum and integration of foreigners in Romania | Better training of staff members of authorities/ institutions with responsibilities in the field of asylum. | Number and type of training sessions; Number of participants in training sessions. | Term: According to the established calendars Resp. party: MAI via GII Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | | |

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| Strategic objective D) sustained capabilities necessary for implementing policies in the field of migration, asylum, and integration of foreigners | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Directions of action | Specific objective: D.3) Accessing non-reimbursable external funds Directions of action Actions carried out Results Monitoring indicator Term, responsible entity, | | | | |
| | | nesures | Monitoring indicator | sources of funding | |
| D.3.1) Efficient management of the 2014 - 2020 FAMI National Program and of the 2014 - 2020 FSI National Program, as FAMI delegated authority and beneficiary | Improving the administrative and technical capacity of GII structures responsible for coordinating the implementation of projects financed from external sources and the knowledge and training of their staff Developing / financing FAMI monopoly / grant projects | Ensuring the highest possible degree of access and absorption of non- reimbursable external funds within the FAMI National Plan | No. of Asylum and Migration Fund grant projects awarded for funding No. of projects implemented within GII as beneficiary in the Asylum and Migration Fund National Project No. of participants in the training sessions/courses | <i>Term</i> : According to the established calendars <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | |
| D.3.2) Attracting and using funds from the 2014-2021 Norwegian Financial Mechanism | Implementing the multiannual system "Improving the national asylum and immigration system" | A high-performance national asylum system | No. of activities carried out No. of purchases | <i>Term</i> : According to the established calendars <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII , IGPF, The police academy; SRI. <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | |
| D.3.3) Attracting and using EU funds from the 2021-2027 funding programs | Encouraging local authorities to take part in the process of accessing European funding in the fields related to M.A.I. (POIDS, 2021- 2027, FAMI 2021- 2027 etc.) Consulting the civil society in the process of preparing programmatic documents related to the New Financial Framework 2021-2027 | | No. of activities carried out | Term: According to the established calendars Resp. party: MAI via DFEN, GII Funding: State budget, External non-reimbursable funds | |

| Strategic objective D) sustained capabilities necessary for implementing policies in the field of migration, asylum, and integration of foreigners Enhancing the dialog with the civil society and non-state international actors | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---------|----------------------|--|
| Directions of action | Actions carried out | Results | Monitoring indicator | Term, responsible entity, sources of funding |
| | | | | GORNOHUZ BELENA-MÁDÁLINA BELENA-MÁDÁLINA AUT. HR. 32152 |

| D.4.1) Promoting the National Participation in various seminars / communication Immigration Strategy and its sessions and other activities of this type and promoting the concept and directions of action established by the Strategy Immigration Management of the Inter-ministerial Council for | immigration phenomenon | No. of activities attended by representatives of the Commission No. of individuals that have attended these activities | <i>Term</i> : 31.12.2021 <i>Resp. party</i> : MAI via GII <i>Funding</i> : State budget, External non-reimbursable funds |
|---|------------------------|---|--|
|---|------------------------|---|--|



Commission for Immigration Management

| Home Affairs and Justice, both | Thematic training of the staff of the institutions and | 4 Increasing th | ne quality of | No. of activities / trainings/ | Term: 31.12.2021 |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| mationally and motormationally | authorities of the Commission on the public policy | public policy | | courses/seminaries organized | Resp. party: MAI via GII/UPP |
| | document (elaboration / promotion / monitoring) | prepared | by the | No. of staff members trained | Funding: State budget, External |
| | Translating the Strategy and Action Plan into several | Commission | | No. of copies translated | non-reimbursable funds |
| | international languages and dissemination of copies in | | | No. of international languages they | |
| | public institutions with responsibilities in immigration | | | have been translated in | |
| | management and in places frequented by foreign | | | No. of institutions/ authorities/ | |
| | citizens | | | public places the copies have been | |
| | | | | disseminated in | |
| | | | | | |



CIORNOHUZ ELENA MĂDĂLINA, undersigned, sworn interpreter and translator for the languages English and French under the authorization No. 32152 dated 25.08.2011 issued by the Ministry of Justice of Romania, hereby certify the accuracy of the translation made from **Romanian** into **English**.



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