



TASKFORCOME: TRANSNATIONAL ACTION TO ADVANCE SKILLS AND COMPETENCES FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL MIGRANTS ENTREPRENEURSHIP INITIATIVES IN THE CENTRAL EUROPE

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SE) AND COMMUNITY-BASED SOCIAL ENTERPRISES IN POLAND

POLAND - NATIONAL REPORT

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Migration to Poland has only been discussed in terms of integration needs and challenges in the last couple of years. Although the programmes dedicated to immigrant integration are a relatively new phenomenon, some non-governmental organizations, such as the Polish Humanitarian Action, Caritas or the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, were active in this field already in the 1990s. At that time, however, the assistance was offered mostly in the form of humanitarian aid and legal assistance. The sector of social enterprises (SEs) for a long time did not focus on immigrants as a primary target group. Although available statistics on social economy or civil society do not provide sufficient data on migrant organizations, some trends are visible. The recent and unprecedented growth in the number of immigrants living and working or studying in Poland corresponds with an increase in initiatives and programmes dedicated to this particular group. Since the Polish state has not developed appropriate immigrant-oriented social policies, the supportive role is fulfilled to a large extent by the representatives of civil society. In some cases, local governments have recently begun to create their own policies and established various forms of cooperation with SEs and other institutions focused on immigrant

integration. It is a very complex and dynamic phenomenon with huge challenges lying in front of all actors involved in the support of immigrants in Poland.

2. LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND DEFINITIONS

The burgeoning literature on social economy indicates a growing trend of integrating social justice values into ‘real’ economy, for instance by introducing measures that decrease social exclusion. Although the term ‘social economy’ itself had greatly evolved and there are heterogenous approaches to this concept, the mainstream of research places the social economy between public and private (market-oriented) sectors (Moulaert and Ailenei, 2005). It combines market activities to achieve social development goals, somehow compensating public bodies in the areas where the public sector is not able to cope with complexity of challenges and stakeholder needs (Hausner and Laurisz, 2008).

In the social economy, a key actor is the social enterprise. Although there are also heterogenous understandings of this concept, the dominant approach presents key elements of the social entrepreneurship, namely: a) the aim of the entrepreneurial activity is to create a social value (either exclusively, or this is one of the dominant aims of the entrepreneurial action) b) it entails capacity to recognize and use opportunities to create this social value c) it applies innovation and innovative solutions to create and distribute social value d) consequently, it is willing to accept some risk to deliver the social value e) it does not accept the limitations stemming from scarce resources to deliver the social value (Peredo and McLean, 2006).

Another concept crucial in our analysis is the community-based social enterprise (CBSE). These are specific types of social enterprises which have the following characteristics a) they are deeply embedded/rooted in a specific geographical location, answering to specific needs of this place, b) they have usually diversified sources of income which finance the social activities. Thus, although they conduct commercial activity, they are typical not-for-private-profit businesses c) they are linked to and controlled by local communities - community representatives often have some power to influence the management of such enterprises, or at least they try to be accountable to local community d) they try to make a positive impact on entire local community, linking various stakeholders in joint actions (Bailey, Kleinhans and Lindbergh, 2018).

In the case of Poland the term ‘social enterprise’ is complex and ambiguous. The first factor which accounts for this lack of precision is the historic experience of Polish institutions which may be today regarded as a part of social economy. Cooperatives, associations, foundations, mutuals and other forms of social enterprises were established at the Polish territory already in the XIX century and flourished in the interwar period. That legacy and turbulent history has had an impact on the revival of social economy after 1989. Another factor influencing the current challenges in delineating the field was the EU accession process, including the promotion of EU approaches and models as well as the availability of funds available to actors defined as social entrepreneurs (Ciepielewska-Kowalik, Pielniński, Starnawska, Szymańska, 2015).

The recent phase of the development of social economy sector in Poland is supported by the state and national legislation. In 2003, the Act on Public Benefit Activity and Volunteer Work was adopted. It was the first legal

document which defined non-governmental organizations (NGOs), underlying their not-for-profit goals, and regulated their relations with public administration. This Law has introduced the concept of ‘public benefit activity’ understood as an ‘activity that is socially useful’ and is performed by, among others, NGOs. Institutions which fulfill the criteria of ‘public benefit organizations’ (PBOs), and perform public tasks defined in this regulation, are eligible for tax exemptions and for a possibility to obtain 1% of individual income tax. This tool enables individual taxpayers to annually donate 1% of their income tax to a selected PBO. In 2019, 8977 PBOs were eligible to take advantage of this source of financial support (as for June 14, 2019) (Ustawa z dnia 24 kwietnia 2003 r. o działalności pożytku publicznego i o wolontariacie; NIW, 2019). Since November 2015, the domains of public benefit have included also activities supporting the integration of foreigners (Bulandra and Kościółek, 2018). It is a positive step in establishing the support system for SEs and CBSEs working for immigrants and immigrant entrepreneurship.

The field of social economy in Poland is also regulated in the National Programme for Social Economy Development adopted in 2014 and modified in 2019 as ‘the National Programme for Social Economy Development until 2023. The Economy of Social Solidarity.’ It distinguishes the most common legal types of social economy entities in Poland such as NGOs (associations, foundations, etc.), organizations run by churches, labour cooperatives, non-profit entities, country women associations. As a subset of social economy, the economy of solidarity encompasses social enterprises, social cooperatives, disabled cooperatives, supported-employment enterprise, reintegration centers (KPRES 2019).

The next parts of the report focus on the most common types of organizations which deal with the presence of migrants in Poland, i.e., associations and foundations.

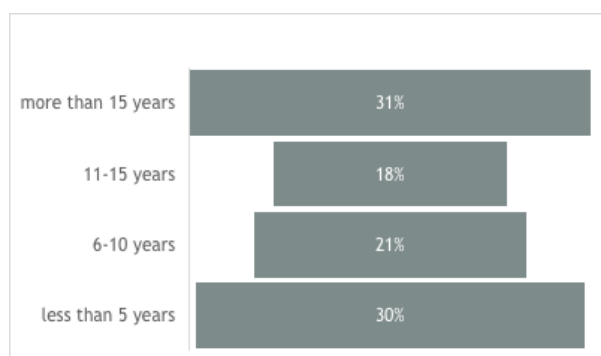
SOCIAL ECONOMY IN POLAND: SECTORS OF ACTIVITY

The revival of social economy in Poland began in the 1980s triggered by an impact of the trade union ‘Solidarity’ on society. Legislative acts on civil society organizations were adopted, and in 1990 there were 600 registered associations and foundations. Since then, the sector has experienced tremendous changes in many aspects, such as, the scope of activities, resources, relations with the state and the market. The most spectacular trend, however, is the quantitative growth of SE actors. The data from 2018 show the following numbers for registered non-governmental organizations: 117 000 associations and 26 000 foundations, which altogether equals 143 000 institutions. It should, however, be underlined that not all of the organizations from the REGON register of the Central Statistical Office are active. The Klon/Jawor Association, which has been monitoring the Polish nongovernmental sector since 2000, estimates that only around 65% of registered organizations really work (Klon/Jawor, 2018).

In 2018, the number of the youngest social enterprises, which have been set up during the past 5 years, has almost reached the number of the oldest ones which have been present in the Polish social field for over 15 years (Fig. 1). There is a significant share of experienced organizations, which have managed to adjust to a changing socio-economic and legal context. Many of these are well-known actors in the Polish civil society and their activities attract public support and mass media coverage. The other significant group are the youngest social enterprises (operating for less than

5 years). Their activities are often related to the recent rise in the number of immigrants settling to Poland and to their needs and problems.

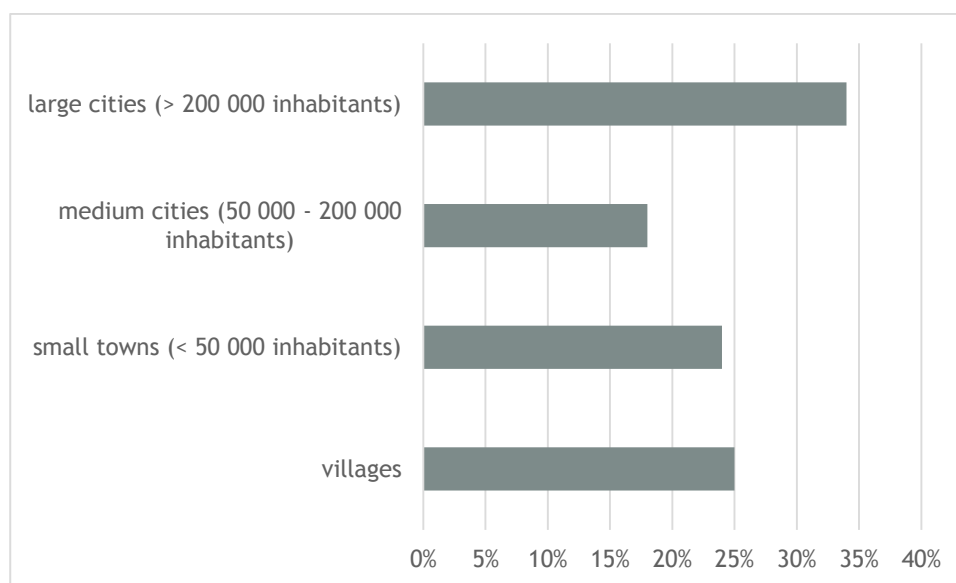
Figure 1. The ‘Age’ of active Social Enterprises (associations and foundations) in Poland.



Source of data: Klon/Jawor (2018).

A larger part of SEs are located in bigger Polish cities (34% of all SEs), usually in former and current provincial capitals. However, villages and small towns are also spots of civic activity, which can be linked to the tradition of local involvement, accompanied by strong neighbourly ties and the role of local leaders (Gliński 2011). In fact, 25% of all associations and foundations are based in rural areas (if voluntary fire brigades were also taken into account, the share of rural NGOs in Poland would be 33%). The least active in this field are medium cities ranging from 50 000 to 200 000 inhabitants (Fig. 3). A plausible explanation of this pattern is the ‘migration hypothesis’ proposed by Baczko and Orgocka (2008) which suggests that many active people who are potential members of civil society organizations have left their towns and moved to larger cities.

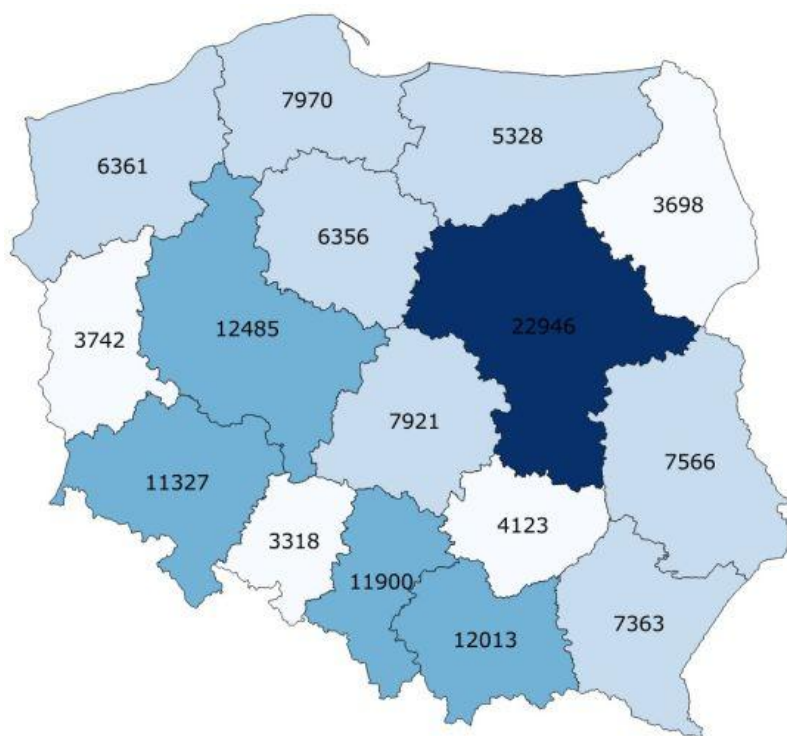
Figure 2. The Location of SEs (associations and foundations) According to the Type of Settlement in 2018.



Source of data: Klon/Jawor (2018).

The greatest density of associations and foundations is in Mazovia, where almost 23 thousands of entities were registered in 2018. The capital, Warsaw, is the location of more than a half of all those organizations (12 700) (Gumkowska, 2018) (Fig. 3). An interesting trend noticed by researchers from the Klon/Jawor Association is an unequal dynamics in setting up new SEs. It turns out that in the last couple of years the majority of new organizations have been formed in the regions which already have a high number of SEs: Mazovia, Malopolska and Lower Silesia. In Malopolska, which will be described in the next parts of the report, in 2018 there were over 12 000 officially registered SEs (Gumkowska, 2018).

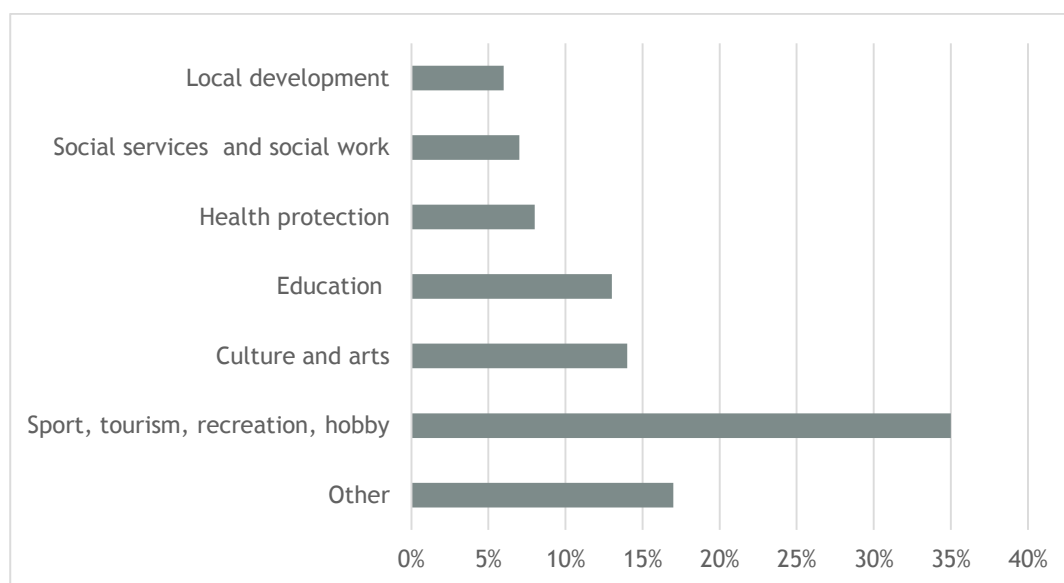
Figure 3. The Number of SEs (associations and foundations) per Voivodship (beginning of 2018).



Source: Gumkowska (2018).

As in 2002, the most common area of activity among associations and foundations nowadays is ‘sport, tourism, recreation and hobbies’ (35% of all surveyed organizations declare this field as their main field of interest). 14% of SEs indicate culture and arts as their key interest, 13% - education. Less than 10% are active either in the field of health care, social services and social work or in local development. 17% of SEs operate in other areas which include environment, employment, research, human rights, security, national identity, international development, religion or support for NGOs (Dąbrowska, Gumkowska, Wygnański, 2002; Klon/Jawor, 2018). The work for immigrants is not accounted for in those statistics as it is a relatively new area and many established organizations have just recently added it to their programmes.

Figure 4. The Main Spheres of Activity of SEs (associations and foundations) in Poland in 2018.



Source of data: Klon/Jawor (2018).

Apart from institutionalized forms of social economy, there is also a dynamic area of informal initiatives, projects, ad hoc campaigns and collective mobilizations which are focused on common interests and goals. The rise of information and communication technologies (ICTs) has transformed the way civil society operates and have opened new paths for activism which is not accounted for in official statistics¹. Therefore, it is important to notice that the institutional actors described in this report are not the only ones undertaking activities related to social economy and, in particular, to immigrants.

¹ Some of these initiatives are, however, registered at the nationwide portal of non-governmental organizations, www.ngo.pl, as “non-formal groups and initiatives.”

SE AND CSBE AND IMMIGRANTS IN POLAND AND MALOPOLSKA REGION

2014 marked a breakthrough in terms of migration processes in Poland. According to the Office for Foreigners (Urząd do Spraw Cudzoziemców, UdSC) while in 2014 around 134 thousand foreigners had valid documents allowing them to stay legally in Poland in 2019 the number reached 400 thousands (for more data and estimates, in particular related to economic processes, see the national report on labour market within Taskforcome by J. Brzozowski).

In Malopolska, in June 2019, there were over 40000 foreigners with valid residence permits, with Ukrainians representing the biggest group. Five years ago, in 2014, there were only 13355 foreigners with such documents². After the Mazovia Province, where Warsaw - the capital of Poland is located, Malopolska is the second region granting the most residence permits to immigrants. As the statistics reveal, the majority of immigrants living in Malopolska region are in the most mobile and productive age (64% aged 20-39, 20% aged 40-59) (UdSC 2019). Whether they will stay in Poland for a longer period depends on many factors, including mostly the economic situation, but also the support they would get at the labour market (including setting up a business) and the extent of help in adaptation to the new life and new culture. Attitudes to foreigners prevalent in the Polish society will also play a vital role.

This recent and unprecedented growth in the number of immigrants living and working or studying in Poland corresponds with an increase in initiatives

² The official data, however, do not represent the real scale of immigration processes, as they do not include all categories of immigrants who stay in Poland (e.g., people staying temporarily, on visas). Moreover, some migration changes are not registered (e.g., free movement within the Schengen area, illegal migrations).

and programmes dedicated to this particular group. Public institutions and non-governmental organizations are still in the process of learning how to provide real assistance to the problems faced by immigrants. It is estimated that around few to a dozen percent of Ukrainians living in Poland are involved in social activism. Particularly active are students, while economic immigrants engage less. For the purpose of this report, it is important to note that immigrants tend to cooperate in small and informal groups. In many cases, however, after securing some resources, they tend to transform their work into officially registered associations or foundations (Malinowski, 2018).

As an exploratory research into immigrant integration in Malopolska conducted in 2014 indicates, there is a variety of needs and challenges in this field. The lack of national integration policy leaves this task to local actors, including SEs and CBSEs. The most crucial at the moment is the access to relevant information concerning legalization of a stay and work for foreigners, their rights, as well as support in Polish language learning. Immigrants living in Poland would also welcome initiatives focused on cultivating and promoting their cultures and languages. Immigrant self-organization process requires support at the local level. In order to adequately respond to the needs of immigrant communities, SEs need, above all, financial support, knowledge about European and other sources of funding, effective cooperation with the local administration and other NGOs, and, in many cases, physical spaces for integration (Brzozowski et al. 2014).

The scope of activities directed towards immigrants in Poland is influenced by the system distinguishing three main categories of foreigners: 1) people granted international protection (including refugees), 2) citizens of the EU

member states, 3) third-country nationals (TCNs, i.e., people legally living in the EU who do not possess citizenship of a EU member state) (Pawlak, Matusz-Protasiewicz, 2015). While this logic is sometimes questioned, it stems from legal rights and obligations which differ depending on the status of a migrant. The most institutionalized assistance is offered to foreigners who applied for or have been granted international protection. The role of social organizations for this group is complementary to the state and consists in providing various kinds of specific support to the members of this group such as material aid, legal assistance, language courses, or professional training. For citizens of EU member states, no specific integration measures are planned neither by the state nor by the EU. In Poland this group includes mostly employees of international corporations, students, highly qualified foreign specialists and entrepreneurs. The most dynamic, thus, are the activities targeting the TCNs. In the Polish case, that applies to the vast majority of immigrants currently living in Poland, including Ukrainians, Belarusians, Russians and Vietnamese people (UdSC 2019). Migrant-oriented SEs working with or for the TCNs are eligible for grants from the European Commission which play crucial role in their activities.

The role of the EU in the work of pro-immigrant organizations and enterprises should be underlined. The research into Warsaw-based SEs dealing with the presence of immigrants shows that a significant part of the public funding for their programmes come from the EU - currently from the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) set up for the period 2014-20³. Although the European Commission acknowledges the role of the state

³ AMIF has replaced former financial mechanisms: European Fund for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals (EIF), European Refugee Fund (ERF) and European Return Fund (ERF). Until 2015 the AMIF's financing had been directed by the

in integration policies, it nevertheless encourages non-state actors to actively participate in pro-immigrant initiatives. As a result, most SEs orient themselves towards either refugees (or other target groups eligible for international protection) or TCNs, and adopt the ‘European integration framework’ along with its terminology, scope of activities and norms. The registered organizations active in the field of migration can be, in many cases, classified as ‘non-governmental enterprises’, since they have their own premises, employ people, develop professional strategies and programmes and provide social services, which distinguishes them from other models of non-governmental organizations (Pawlak, Matusz-Protasiewicz, 2015; Przewłocka, Adamiak, Zając, 2013; Klaus, Ostaszewska-Żuk, Szczepanik, 2017).

SEs and CBSEs undertake numerous activities related to the widely understood integration of immigrants. They adapt their strategies and actions to rapidly changing migration realities. Due to direct relations with immigrants, the staff and volunteers of these organizations have a good knowledge about the needs and problems which should be addressed. New organizations set up by migrants themselves or in partnership with the Poles have recently been established (e.g., Foundation of Polish-Ukrainian Cooperation "U-Work", Zustricz Foundation in Krakow, the Foundation for Somalia, The “Our Choice” Foundation). An analysis conducted by a group of researchers from Jagiellonian University has indicated four main areas in which these enterprises act, i.e., a) assistance, mainly providing adequate information but also legal advice, b) educational activities, c) support for

government to NGOs working on migrants’ integration. Since then, however, the main beneficiaries of the Fund are state agencies and a couple of organizations selected by the state (Gostyńska-Jakubowska, 2018).

immigrants' cultural activities and the development of multicultural ideas and dialogue, d) intervention actions. More detailed typology proposed by Mikulska-Jolles (2019: 22) includes the following fields of activity: a) legal measures, b) informal measures and measures supporting integration, c) employment aid, d) linguistic training, e) integration measures targeted at specific migrant groups, f) assistance in finding accommodation and other forms of financial support, g) monitoring and research, h) advocacy, i) actions targeting the host society, j) cooperation with local authorities to develop municipal integration action plans and policies, k) actions supporting the education of migrant children and multicultural education. Table 1 presents this typology with examples of SEs and CBSEs in Poland (with an emphasis on Kraków, the capital of Malopolska). One category - culture - has been added to this typology as a separate field, as it is an important field for many migrant-related organizations.

Table 1. The main areas of activities supporting immigrants carried out by SEs and CBSEs in Poland.

Areas of activity	The character of assistance	Examples of SEs and CBSEs in Poland (in Kraków in particular)
legal measures	Counselling and support of lawyers (residence permits, legalisation, family matters, migration law, issues of citizenship, labour law, legal aspects of employment and setting up an enterprise, discrimination problems,	Halina Nieć Legal Aid Centre (Krakow), Association for Legal Intervention (Warsaw), Interkulturalni Association (Kraków), Polish Humanitarian Action (Warsaw), Helsinki Foundation for Human

	monitoring of migration law, etc.)	Rights
informal measures and activities supporting integration	Preparing materials (print and online) providing up-to-date information on various aspects of living and working in Poland; 'integration counsellors' who help immigrants with the everyday problems,	The Ocalenie Foundation (Warsaw), Polish Migration Forum (Warsaw), Foundation Ukraine (Wroclaw), the Polish-Ukrainian Foundation "Zustricz" (Krakow), Homo Faber Association (Lublin), The Foundation for the Multicultural Center (Warsaw)
employment aid	Help in finding a job, vocational and business counselling, management of cultural diversity in business	Foundation of Polish-Ukrainian Cooperation "U-Work" (Krakow), Immigrant Support Centre (Gdansk), Polish Migration Forum (Warsaw), Foundation for Somalia (Warsaw), Diversity Hub Association (Krakow), Expats Krakow,
linguistic training	Language lessons and courses	Immigrant Support Centre (Gdansk), The Linguae Mundi Foundation (Warsaw)
Integration measures targeted at specific migrant groups	Various projects dedicated to specific groups (e.g., interest groups, support groups, artists, women	'Nasz Wybor' (Our Choice) Foundation, Polish Migration Forum (Warsaw)

	groups)	
assistance in finding accommodation and other forms of financial support	Including campaigns to collect and distribute basic objects to people in need	Refugee.pl, The Ocalenie Foundation (Warsaw), 'Polska Gościnność' Foundation (Warsaw), Caritas Polska (Warsaw)
monitoring and research		Halina Nieć Legal Aid Centre (Kraków), Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (Warsaw), Foundation of the Centre of Migration Research (Warsaw)
advocacy	Advocacy efforts to change law and practices in the field of migration	Amnesty International (Warsaw), Association for Legal Intervention (Warsaw), Jewish Association Czulent (Kraków), The Ocalenie Foundation (Warsaw)
actions targeting the host society	Various forms of informal education including workshops, trainings, seminars	Interkulturalni Association (Kraków), 'Inna Przestrzeń' (Other Space) Foundation (Warsaw), Multicultural Cracow
culture and art	cultural events, picnics, festivals promoting migrants culture and dialogues of	'Inna Przestrzeń' (Other Space) Foundation (Warsaw), The Ocalenie Foundation (Warsaw),

	cultures	Multicultural Cracow
cooperation with local authorities to develop municipal integration action plans and policies		Interkulturalni Association (Kraków), Foundation Ukraine (Wrocław), 'Inna Przestrzeń' (Other Space) Foundation (Warsaw), 'Dom Pokoju' (House of Peace) Foundation (Wrocław), Immigrant Support Centre (Gdansk)
actions supporting the education of migrant children and intercultural education	Cooperation with schools, multicultural workshops, trainings for teachers, private lessons for children, monitoring of Polish schools in regard to the treatment of immigrant children, etc.	The Foundation for the Multicultural Center (Warsaw), the Mikołaj Rej Foundation for the Support of Polish Language and Culture (Krakow), Multicultural Cracow Association, Jewish Association Czulent (Krakow), Polish Migration Forum (Warsaw), the Polish-Ukrainian Foundation "Zustricz" (Krakow),

Sources: Mikulska-Jolles (2019); Slany et al. (eds.) (2014); Księga dobrych praktyk (2018); Uchodzczy.info.

PUBLIC POLICIES SUPPORTING SE AND CBSE IN POLAND AND MALOPOLSKA REGION

The Polish law does not define the term 'integration.' For the vast majority of foreigners living in Poland there are no integration programmes nor immigrant-oriented social policy at the national level. Integration

assistance, in the form of so-called ‘Individual Integration Programme,’ is provided only to people who had been granted refugee status or subsidiary protection. In 2012, the government adopted a document ‘Poland’s Migration Policy - Current Status and Postulated Actions’ which followed, to a large degree, the European Commission’s approach to migration and integration policy (Koss-Goryszewska, Pawlak, 2018). Since the document was eventually rejected in 2016 by the next government which has been working on a new strategy, there is still no national migration and integration policy. The unofficial draft of a new strategy towards migrants which became public in June 2019 has been heavily criticized by many experts on migration, including members of the Committee on Migration Research of Polish Academy of Science (KBnM PAN, 2019).

In this context, unsurprisingly, actions focused on immigrants are developed at a local or regional level. The main actors in integration endeavours are thus local and regional authorities and local non-governmental organizations (including SEs or CbSEs), which, in some cases, have recently taken up dialogue and established or intensified cooperation. Most activities in this field can be observed at urban centers where immigration has been rising and reshaping local communities. Although generally in Europe the anti-immigrant and radical nationalist movements and parties have been creating obstacles in immigrant integration, there are cities which are actively engaged in pursuing pro-immigrant strategies and policies. In Poland it is worth to mention Warsaw, Białystok, Gdańsk, Kraków, Lublin, Poznań. Recently, their initiatives in public policies and practices have been appreciated by migrant communities and organizations working on migration (see e.g., Księga dobrych praktyk, 2018; Miasta Otwarte). Some of them are described in the following section.

Warsaw

Although immigrants choose various cities and towns in Poland, Warsaw continues to be the main destination as it is the capital with vibrant business and employment opportunities. The heterogeneous population of immigrants living in Warsaw has been the focus of activities of many SEs and CBSEs offering various kinds of help and support. While the Warsaw municipality has not developed any coherent policy on immigrant integration, several solutions exist. In 2012, proposed by local NGOs, the Social Dialogue Commission for Foreigners (Branżowa Komisja Dialogu Społecznego ds. Cudzoziemców, BKDSdsC) was created as an advisory body to the Mayor of Warsaw as well as a cooperation platform of representatives of NGOs working for foreigners. It was the first such initiative in Poland. The Commission is an important source of knowledge on various aspects of immigrants living in the city. It identifies areas concerning immigrants in Warsaw which should receive financial support from the municipality and consults legal acts and documents related to migration topics. The Commission consists of representatives of 37 organizations and of the municipality of Warsaw. Additionally, it invites for some of its meetings other actors engaged in the migration issue. One of the visible outcomes of the policy is the Multicultural Center in Warsaw which is supported by the city hall and managed by a coalition of CBSEs which are encouraged to apply for the EU funding for the projects. The Center creates a space for diverse actors working for immigrant communities. It acts in the field of education, information, culture, support for immigrants, and in research on migration processes, but most of all it aims at being a shared, multifunctional space of integration and common

projects for the immigrant population (BKDSdsC, 2019; Matusz-Protasiewicz, 2014; Fundacja na rzecz Centrum Wielokulturowego).

Gdansk

In 2015, the Mayor of Gdansk established an interdisciplinary ‘Task Force’ to develop a local model of immigrant integration. The outcome of the work of over 140 people representing more than 80 different actors was the document ‘Immigrant Integration Model’ (IIM) which states the vision, objectives and tasks in the field of immigrant integration (IIMT, 2016). It represents a holistic approach which takes into considerations eight areas of life where support for immigrants is welcomed. SEs and CBSEs are seen as important partners in many areas, e.g., in developing immigrants’ competences and avoiding permanent employment below qualifications. Immigrant Career Centers should be dedicated to all aspects of employment, including support for immigrant entrepreneurship (IIMT, 2016: 107-109). Public institutions are engaged in organizing the ‘Migration and Integration Forum’ which is essential in the implementation of IIM. It gathers specialists from various domains such as education, health, housing, sport, culture, social policy, business, and provides a forum for a wide audience to hold regular meetings and discussions on the local dimension of immigration (Księga dobrych praktyk, 2018: 209-214).

Wroclaw

The authorities of Wroclaw invited numerous stakeholders, including SEs and business organizations, to prepare a document regulating issues related to the presence of foreigners in the city. ‘The strategy for Intercultural Dialogue in Wroclaw 2018-2022’ (UMW, 2018) is being implemented by the Wroclaw Center for Social Development (WCSD) with the help of the

Multicultural Dialogue Council. The focus is on four areas: education, integration, security and cooperation. The city representatives underline the role of SEs and CBSEs and encourage them to cooperate in the pursuit of common goals related to multiculturalism, e.g., in the form of partnerships in projects. The WCSD provides information and helps to prepare a project proposal, but most of all it aims at strengthening migrant organizations not only financially but also with an expert knowledge (Zapolska, Kwapisiewicz, 2018).

Krakow

Integration policy of immigrants in Krakow has been developing in the framework of the ‘Open Kraków’ programme (UMK, Otwarty Krakow) which was adopted by the Council of the City of Krakow in 2016. As in other cities mentioned earlier, local non-governmental actors played an important role in developing the approach to immigrant integration. The programme integrates some of the best practices from other European cities (Bulandra, Kościółek, 2018). There is a forum for regular dialog among representatives of minorities and foreigners, other actors working with immigrants, and the local government. The Interdisciplinary Team meets usually once a month to address current issues and challenges.

There is a dedicated webpage ‘Open Krakow’ that provides some administrative information useful for foreigners (e.g., what are the competences of the city administration vs voivodeship office in regard to foreigners) as well as essential updates on the implementation of the programme. Other visible outcomes of the projects are: ‘Welcome package for foreigners’, multicultural festivals, educational activities, conferences and trainings on the issues such as inclusive society, intercultural dialogue,

anti-discriminatory mechanisms, multiculturalism. Open Krakow is also a partner in an international project 'Mutual Understanding, Respect and Learning - MURAL', led by the British Council in Poland which aims to promote the principles of pluralism, democracy and tolerance in response to the negative social trends in contemporary Europe.

An important tool supporting immigrants living in Krakow is the multi-lingual (Polish, English, Ukrainian, Russian) Information Point for Foreigners in Kraków (IPF) launched in August 2018. It is run by the Foundation for Polish-Ukrainian Cooperation 'U-WORK' together with the Interkulturalni.pl Association, Foundation for the Support of Polish Language and Culture M. Reja, One-World One-Heart Foundation and Association of Multicultural Families.

In regard to entrepreneurship, in 2017 and 2018 Krakow City Hall Center provided public task entitled: Entrepreneurship Support for Foreigners which was implemented by NGOs. In 2018 and 2019 these actions were undertaken by the IPF. Moreover, free legal advice is offered as well as consultations with specialists in labour law and in various aspects related to employment and self-employment in Poland.

Malopolska

Support for migrants is also provided at the regional level by the Malopolska Provincial Office based in Krakow. In the period of 2018 - 2021 it runs a project 'Malopolska friendly to foreigners - support for integration and adaptation of third countries nationals' funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the Polish government. The direct assistance to foreigners is being offered by the Info.opt project - helpline and information dedicated to third countries nationals in matters of

legalization of stay and work in Poland in four languages: Polish, English, Ukrainian and Russian. There are two such Points in Malopolska - one in Krakow, and the other in Nowy Sacz. Among others, they provide counselling in administrative and legal matters and organize trainings when new developments in the legal sphere occur. A lawyer and a psychologist cooperate in the project. There are adaptation courses as well as free Polish-language courses for the TCNs.

An important element of the project is a Collaboration Platform for public institutions. It integrates leaders of migrant communities, heads of NGO's working with migrants, diplomats, municipal authorities and other relevant stakeholders. A few SEs are also taking part in the platform's activities. The aim is to share information on barriers and strengths in the process of immigrant integration and, ultimately, to develop regional integration strategy. Trainings for public institutions, including schools, are organized to strengthen their capacities in working with immigrants.

The Office's representatives participate in local events related to multiculturalism such as community networking meetings, job fairs, integrational events for locals. They also make presentations, trainings or workshops for NGOs working with migrants. There is also a cooperation with academic institutions in the region (MUW, Malopolska Przyjazna Cudzoziemcom).

CASE STUDIES OF SELECTED SES AND CBSES

Association for Legal Intervention in Warsaw (Stowarzyszenie Interwencji Prawnej), <https://interwencjaprawna.pl/>

Established in 2005 by a group of activists and lawyers, the Association for Legal Intervention provides free of charge counselling and legal advice to refugees, asylum seekers, foreigners, prisoners, children, adoptive families and all people in a difficult life situation. In 2009, it opened an Information Center for Foreigners dedicated in particular to the non-EU nationals in Poland. The staff explains legalization procedures, assists in other legal problems and helps in appealing against negative decisions of the Polish state administrative bodies. There is a particular support for immigrants in the field of labour law (e.g., the online ‘Guide for migrant workers’ provides an explanation of the most common forms of employment contracts in three languages: Polish, English and Russian). The Center cooperates with the Mazovian Voivodeship Office.

Foundation for Polish-Ukrainian Cooperation ‘U-WORK’ in Krakow

(Fundacja Współpracy Polsko-Ukraińskiej U-WORK), <https://u-work.pl>

The Foundation was formalized in June 2016 after a period of informal cooperation in assisting newcomers from Ukraine. Gradually, the scope of its activities has enlarged and includes various kinds of help in socio-economic integration. Although its primary targets were immigrants from

ex-USSR, it now focuses its activities on the general Krakow-based immigrant population. In particular, the Foundation's initiatives support students in adaptation to the Polish reality. It conducts information meetings and events which offer basic knowledge on the rights and obligations of foreigners but also on the opportunities for development (e.g., internships). Another target groups are entrepreneurs, labor migrants and their family members, who may take advantage of consultation services or trainings. Foundation runs Information Point for Foreigners commissioned and financed by the municipality of Kraków. Apart from assisting immigrants in the legalization of work, it works with Polish and international companies willing to employ foreigners in Poland but facing problems with documents or procedures in this matter. The Information Point holds also regular consultations with experts and lawyers which are free and open to the public. In regard to entrepreneurship, the U-Work Foundation supports immigrants in establishing a start-up or running a business in Poland. The Centre for Entrepreneurship Support for Foreigners (Centrum Wsparcia Przedsiębiorczości Obcokrajowców) provides necessary information and offers free trainings in the business-related fields: accounting, labour regulations, taxes. It also provides free assistance in

firm's registration, obtaining the PESEL and creating a profile in E-PUAP. Moreover, the programme offers networking platforms for entrepreneurs.

Foundation for Somalia in Warsaw (Fundacja dla Somalii), fds.org.pl

Foundation for Somalia was established in 2007 with a mission to promote the intercultural dialogue, diversity, respect for human rights as well as the exchange of cultural experiences in Poland, Europe and Africa. Since that time, in response to the needs of the growing immigrant community in Mazovia, it has developed and expanded its actions and programmes which currently include: Polish language courses, business trainings, legal advice, promotion of intercultural dialogue, integration workshops, integration assistants. Integration of immigrants, regardless of origin, is among top priorities for the Foundation. In 2017, together with the association Pro Humanum, the Foundation became the manager of the Multicultural Center in Warsaw. An important aspect of the Foundation's activity is the activization of immigrants and the career guidance. It wants to support immigrant integration into the Polish labour market. As a part of the EU-supported project 'Enterprising Immigrant', the 'ABC of Entrepreneurship'

trainings have been organized. They support immigrants and help them to transform their business ideas into start-ups. The trainings also focus on formal procedures, legalization of residence, tax system and other challenges for immigrant entrepreneurs in Poland.

Halina Niec Legal Aid Centre (HNLAC) in Krakow (Stowarzyszenie ‘Centrum Pomocy Prawnej im. Haliny Nieć’), <https://www.pomocprawna.org>

Halina Niec Legal Aid Centre is a non-governmental organization established in 2002 in Krakow with the aim to provide help to people in difficult situations. The target groups include foreigners, especially refugees and asylum seekers. Human rights protection and democracy are among the main values for the Centre. In order to accomplish its aims, the Centre cooperates with various stakeholders in the area of immigration, such as the UNHCR, the Polish Border Guard, social workers dealing with refugees, the police, the La Strada Foundation, the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights. It is actively involved in the ‘Open Kraków’ programme. Its activities encompass also human rights advocacy, legal interventions and social campaigns. As a partner of UNHCR, the HNLAC monitors refugee and detention centers and assesses compliance with the international refugee and human rights law.

The currently implemented project, supported by the Open Society Foundation, ‘Strengthening social embeddedness and mobilizing social supporters of the HNLAC’ (2018-2019) entails cooperation with companies which employ foreigners. The Center has offered them trainings and plans to engage them in the fundraising activities.

Immigrant Support Center in Gdansk (Centrum wsparcia imigrantów i imigrantek), <https://cwii.org.pl>

The Immigrant Support Center is a CbSE acting in the field of integration and prevention of discriminatory practices in the Tricity area (Gdansk, Gdynia, Sopot). The core field of activities entails information and counselling in the legal aspects of residing and working in Poland, as well as career counselling. Its free Polish language courses attract hundreds of immigrants and their children. Gradually, the organization adjusts its actions to the needs of the immigrant community, e.g., by offering free childcare and workshops for children from immigrant families and cultural events. For people in need, the Center offers social assistance and psychological support. It is also engaged in monitoring the immigrant-related violence and abuse. Apart from direct assistance offered to immigrants, the goal of this SE is to develop close cooperation with the

municipality and public institutions dealing with different areas of immigrants' lives. They want to be an active voice in the shaping of local migration and integration policies. Representatives of the Center take part in the Poland's first official Immigrant Council, consisting solely of immigrants, which advises the mayor and other local authorities on issues related to the presence of foreigners in the region.

Interkulturalni.pl Association in Krakow (Stowarzyszenie

Interkulturalni.pl), www.interkulturalni.pl

The Association was established in 2010 and soon began the cooperation with the municipality of Cracow in the area of immigrant integration and intercultural dialogue. The Association's members pointed to the lack of awareness to multiculturalism in the public institutions. Their research, expertise, recommendations and advocacy contributed to the 'Open Kraków' programme adopted in 2016. Their fields of interest include most of all: education in the field of cultural diversity, integration programmes (consultancy, empowerment, language courses, career counselling, networking). The organization provides information and free of charge legal advice concerning residence and work in Poland for immigrants. In 2018,

along with other CBSEs, it was in charge of the Information Point for Foreigners commissioned and financed by the municipality of Krakow. Currently the Association cooperates also with the Voivode of Malopolska in the implementation of the project ‘Malopolska friendly to foreigners - support for integration and adaptation of third countries nationals’ (September 2018-December 2020). In this framework, Interkulturalni.pl has been organizing cultural-integration events, such as the multicultural cinema, urban games, workshops, trips, etc. It is worth mentioning that the Association was awarded for its work for immigrants and ‘intercultural dialogue’ by receiving in June 2019 the title of ‘Krakow Multicultural Ambassador’, which is a new initiative of the Open Kraków project.

The Mikołaj Rej Foundation for the Support of Polish Language and Culture in Krakow (Fundacja Wspierania Kultury i Języka Polskiego im. Mikołaja Reja), fundacjareja.eu.

The Mikołaj Rej Foundation was created in 2011 in Kraków in order to promote Polish culture and language, but also to work for intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity. It works in the field of education and supports foreigners and schools having migrant children. The Foundation’s

current project of a Multicultural School in Cracow has already opened registration for the forthcoming school year. It is open to the immigrant children, the Polish children who had returned to Poland, children from bicultural families, and to the Polish children in general. It will teach Polish language as a foreign language. It also works with school directors, teachers, cultural assistants by providing trainings, which is now realized as a part of the British Council-led project 'Mutual Understanding, Respect and Learning' (MURAL). The Foundation's leader, Urszula Majcher-Legawiec, was awarded the title of the 'Krakow Multicultural Ambassador' of 2018 for her work dedicated to the development of multicultural society in the educational field.

Ocalenie Foundation in Warsaw (Fundacja Ocalenie),

<https://ocalenie.org.pl>

Founded in 2000, it is now one of the most multi-dimensional SEs working for immigrants in Poland. The Foundation's activities are concentrated in three areas: direct assistance to immigrants (special programmes for refugees), education and cooperation with business, public institutions and non-governmental organizations. Since 2004, noticing the lack of support

from the state, it has run the Help Centre for Foreigners (‘Centrum Pomocy Cudzoziemcom’) in Warsaw, a ‘Consultation Site’ and a day-care centre for refugee and Polish children in the city of Łomża. The assistance in integration involves also activities such as: free legal advice, information, Polish language courses at various levels, help in writing CV, material aid (e.g., second-hand clothes) and programmes supporting refugees. The staff assists in any problems foreigners (especially non-Polish speaking people) have in their contacts with the state or city administration, medical institutions, schools, etc. Ocalenie Foundation works in advocacy, consulting or commenting public policies and migration law. For children and youth it organizes additional educational and cultural activities. For all inhabitants of Warsaw, including immigrants, there are various integration events.

The Polish-Ukrainian Foundation ‘Zustricz’ in Kraków, (Fundacja Polsko-Ukraińska ‘Zustricz’), <https://zustricz.pl>.

The Polish-Ukrainian Foundation ‘Zustricz’ supports the integration of immigrants (particularly Ukrainians) in Poland and works for the intercultural dialog. It developed as a SE from an informal group of

Ukrainians living in Kraków who saw the need to respond to the tragic events in Ukraine during the mass protests in 2013. As a registered organization, the Zustricz Foundation helps newly arrived Ukrainians in settling in Krakow and adapting to new conditions. Moreover, it intends to be a place open to immigrants who want to develop their own initiatives. One area of the Zustricz organization's work is the assistance and psychological support for migrants and their families. There are special programmes dedicated to children. Other activities involve cultural and integration events, such as meetings with people of culture and science, literary clubs, and film screenings, feasts celebrations. For migrant workers, the SE offers free consultations with experts of the National Labor Inspectorate. It is part of the project 'Work Legally' intended to help foreign workers solve their problems. Due to the support of the Batorego Foundation, Zustricz has got opportunity to expand its geographical scope and to better asses the needs of Ukrainian communities living not only in Kraków, but also in other parts of Poland.

Conclusion

In recent years we can observe the ‘local turn’ in the approach to immigrant integration (Matusz Protasiewicz, 2013). In the absence of a long-term strategy in approaching immigrants coming to Poland, some local governments and other actors, including SEs and CbSEs, have taken over the integration challenge. The mass immigration to Poland is still a relatively new phenomena, but is it probable that the immigrants, or at least a part of them, would stay in Poland permanently. Although it is impossible to predict migration patterns for the future, integration policies and activities are necessary at this phase in order to assist the immigrants and to prevent potential conflicts and tensions. The examples of local policies described in this report clearly show the recent trend in some larger cities to establish multi-sectoral and interdisciplinary partnerships and cooperation platforms as a solution to the lack of precise knowledge on the needs and problems of immigrants living in Poland. Social enterprises have been providing first-hand information on the issues which need to be addressed to assist integration processes. As the number of foreigners in Poland has been growing, SEs have adapted their activities and, often with the support of the EU funds, proposed basic services to the newcomers. Another recent trend is the development of organizations created, or co-

created, by migrants themselves. Although their resources and competences are limited, they nevertheless fulfill an important role in immigrant integration.

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