

# Integration Strategy & Action Plan (2025-2030)

**Alexander Tortell** 

**Human Rights Directorate** 

<alexander.tortell@gov.mt>





#### Introduction/1

On 29/1/2025, Government launched the second national integration governance framework, and implementation has started.

It was preceded by several years of experience and expertise gained within the Human Rights Directorate (HRD), the whole-of-government and civil society.

A national public consultation was held in 2023. The input from the public and stakeholders, and in meetings held, focused on the "how." This was an important development. The public consultation introduced into policy a clearer understanding of the four stages of integration and the foundational three pillars of integration.

#### Introduction/2

The document needs to be read and implemented in the context of the recent Malta Labour Migration Policy framework, where integration takes a prominent role. For example:

- Mandatory integration courses prior to arrival
- Upskilling and integrating the foreign workforce
- Review of the Long-Term Residence Status legislation to facilitate integration



Consultation Document

#### **Integration Public Consultation**

The consultation introduced into the public space key Integration governance frameworks:

- The four stages of Integration (i. pre-departure, ii. reception and early, iii. long-term, iv. cohesive society)
- The foundational three pillars of integration in the Maltese context (fundamental rights and equality, meeting the needs of the economy, safe and cohesive communities)
- Intersectionality as a key to better understand identity and needs



#### Restructuring of "I Belong"

The restructuring and reform of the national integration programme "I Belong" is at the heart of the work of the next five years.

This programme has already served the needs of the country and of thousands of service-users, but now it needs to grow, to be more efficient, and where necessary have a vocational component. Access to services will be faster in order to eliminate current bottlenecks.

- Proposals for the necessary legal amendments
- More educational institutions will provide "I Belong" Stage 2 services
- Technology will be exploited to meet demand and new needs (such as access to services from abroad in connection with mandatory integration courses prior to arrival)



## The structure of this Strategy

- Vision: Embracing Diversity, Building Cohesion
- Background: Toward the Second Integration Strategy
- Target Groups
- Coordination and Implementation
- Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation
- Overarching Strategic Policy Goals (6 in all)
- Action Plan (41 measures)



## **Policy Goal 1: Highlights**

- Mainstreaming integration in legislation and policy
- Seek guidance and expertise
- Integration becomes a part of migration management
- Resources







## **Policy Goal 2: Highlights**

- Data ("I Belong" Operating System)
- National Integration Support Centre (One-Stop-Shop)
- Comprehensive training for public officers





#### **Policy Goal 3: Highlights**

- Since 2018, Malta already has a national integration programme, the "I Belong" Programme. Since then, various changes have already been introduced to meet new needs and challenges. However, in 2025-2030, a major restructuring will be implemented to ensure quality.
- Cultural mediations





### **Policy Goal 4: Highlights**

- Documentation and wellbeing
- Education and wellbeing
- Housing/living conditions and wellbeing
- Health and wellbeing
- Labour market integration and wellbeing







## **Policy Goal 5: Highlights**

- Local integration
- Integration and Anti-Racism Consultative Council
- Migrant-led initiatives
- Outreach







## **Policy Goal 6: Highlights**

- Awareness raising on two-way integration
- Actions with media
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Indicators







#### Resources

Apart from national budgets, HRD has already been awarded a number of projects to support implementation, and we will be submitting other proposals for further Funding.



**EUROPEAN UNION** 

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund



Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.

(c. Eur 6ml)

(c. Eur 250k)

TSI completed

