

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

RESOLUTION

No 572 of 17 May 2001

Vilnius

**ON THE APPROVAL OF THE ORDER ON THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF
FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM**

Implementing the measure 14 of point 9 of the National action plan in the field of asylum, approved by Resolution No 906 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 28 July 2000 on the approval of the national action plan in the field of asylum (News, 2000, No 65–1960), and point 22 of Chapter I “The security of person and the legal system” of the Action plan for the implementation of the programme of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania for 2000-2004, approved by Resolution No 149 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 9 February 2001 on the approval of the action plan for the implementation of the programme of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania for 2000-2004 (News, 2001, No 14–437), the Government of the Republic of Lithuania resolves:

1. To approve the order of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum (attached).

2. To establish that the order of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum, approved by this resolution, shall enter into force from 1 October 2001.

3. As from 1 October 2001, to repeal:

3.1. Points 2.4, 14 and 15 of the conditions and order on the provision of state support and services for refugees, approved by Resolution No 421 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 3 April 1996 concerning the status of refugees in the Republic of Lithuania (News, 1996, No 33-819);

3.2. Resolution No 239 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 26 February 1998 on the approval of the order of the social integration of refugees (News, 1998, No 22-546);

3.3. Resolution No 513 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 8 May 2000 on the social integration of foreigners granted a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania on humanitarian grounds (News, 2000, No 39–1101).

Prime Minister

Rolandas Paksas

Minister of Social Security and Labour

Vilija Blinkevičiūtė

APPROVED BY
Resolution No 572 of 17 May 2001
of the Government of the Republic of
Lithuania

ORDER OF THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This order regulates the conditions and fundamentals of the implementation of integration into the Lithuanian society in respect of:

1.1. foreigners, who, upon being granted the refugee status in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania, have been granted a permanent residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania, and their family members, who in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania have arrived in the Republic of Lithuania on the grounds of family reunification;

1.2. foreigners, who, in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania, have been granted a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania on humanitarian grounds, if a foreigner cannot be deported to his country of origin under the principle of *non-refoulement* after denying him the refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, due to an armed conflict or natural disasters in the foreigner's country of origin.

2. Social integration is a process, during which foreigners specified in points 1.1 and 1.2 (hereinafter referred to as foreigners granted asylum) on the basis of the programme of measures provided in this order are given the same opportunities to maintain themselves and to participate in public life as other members of the society.

3. The directions of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum are as follows:

3.1. to provide temporary accommodation;

3.2. to organise education;

3.3. to organise employment;

3.4. to ensure social security;

3.5. to ensure health care;

3.6. to inform the public about foreigners granted asylum, in order to prevent their isolation, public xenophobia and to promote tolerance.

II. INSTITUTIONS IMPLEMENTING THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM

4. The implementation of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum shall be organised and coordinated by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour. The Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Health Care shall also participate in these activities.

Municipalities, non-governmental organisations or state institutions authorised by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall implement individual social integration on the basis of cooperation agreements.

5. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall within its competence:

5.1. organise and coordinate the social integration of foreigners granted asylum:

5.1.1. annually, along with other state institutions estimate the amount of funds from the state budget of the Republic of Lithuania required for the implementation of the programme for the social integration of foreigners granted asylum (hereinafter referred to as the social integration programme);

5.1.2. in the event of an unforeseen increase in the number of foreigners granted asylum (in case of emergency) submit proposals to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania concerning the allocation of additional funds from the state budget of the Republic of Lithuania for the implementation of the social integration programme;

5.1.3. in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania, establish social integration centres to temporarily accommodate foreigners granted asylum;

5.1.4. take decisions concerning the inclusion of foreigners granted asylum in the state supported social integration programme and the place of its implementation;

5.1.5. conclude cooperation agreements with municipalities and non-governmental organisations on the social integration of foreigners granted asylum;

5.1.6. consult municipalities and non-governmental organisations on the matters relating to the implementation of the individual social integration of foreigners granted asylum;

5.1.7. organise the training and improvement of qualifications of public servants of the municipalities, other institutions and agencies, as well as staff of non-governmental organisations, which contribute to the implementation of individual social integration;

5.1.8. provide information and consultations to foreigners granted asylum on the matters of their social integration;

5.1.9. consider proposals of municipalities and non-governmental organisations regarding the individual social integration of foreigners granted asylum, take decisions on the extension of the period of social integration, the reduction, suspension or renewal, termination of financial support for an individual programme, the additional allocation of funds and other matters of individual social integration;

5.1.10. analyse reports submitted by municipalities and non-governmental organisations on the use of the funds allotted for the social integration programme, as well as information on the progress of individual social integration;

5.1.11. supervise individual social integration carried out by municipalities and non-governmental organisations, summarise results, provide them with recommendations on the matters of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum;

5.2. take care of the improvement of the legal regulations in the area of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum;

5.3. cooperate with respective international organisations, foreign institutions and non-governmental organisations on the matters of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum;

5.4. consult organisers of important projects (to solve integration, ethnic equality and tolerance problems);

5.5. cooperate with national communities of foreigners granted asylum, which assist in the preservation of their language, religion, traditions and cultural heritage;

5.6. inform the public about foreigners granted asylum, in order to prevent their isolation, public xenophobia and to promote tolerance.

6. The Ministry of Education and Science shall within its competence:

6.1. make proposals concerning financial needs for the organisation of the education of foreigners granted asylum;

6.2. coordinate the activities of educational institutions dealing with foreigners granted asylum, provide them with methodological assistance, organise the improvement of qualifications of teachers;

6.3. submit proposals how to improve the legal regulations in the area of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum;

6.4. organise the preparation of standard programmes of courses on the Lithuanian language and introductory courses on the Lithuanian society, which are designed for foreigners granted asylum;

6.5. organise the preparation of socio-cultural programmes intended for foreigners granted asylum;

6.6. provide methodological assistance to special educational projects carried out by national associations of foreigners granted asylum.

7. The Ministry of Health Care shall within its competence:

7.1. participate in the preparation of proposals concerning financial needs for the organisation of health care for foreigners granted asylum;

7.2. provide methodological assistance to health care institutions providing individual and public health care for foreigners granted asylum;

7.3. make proposals how to improve the legal regulations in the area of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum.

8. Municipalities, which pursuant to laws of the Republic of Lithuania have concluded cooperation agreements with the Ministry of Social Security and Labour on the social integration of foreigners granted asylum, shall:

8.1. implement the individual social integration of foreigners granted asylum:

8.1.1. find and rent residential premises to accommodate foreigners granted asylum, help them move to those premises;

8.1.2. conclude agreements on individual social integration with foreigners granted asylum;

8.1.3. help foreigners granted asylum acquire necessities from a single settlement grant;

8.1.4. develop an individual (or family) action plan for the implementation of the social integration programme in respect of every foreigner granted asylum;

8.1.5. organise an introductory course on the Lithuanian society for foreigners granted asylum;

8.1.6. organise courses of the Lithuanian language;

8.1.7. take care of education and general development of children of pre-school and school age;

8.1.8. take care of employment;

8.1.9. arrange the provision of social services to foreigners granted asylum, resident in the territory of the municipality, if needed, their placement in a care institution or in the place of residence of their guardian;

8.1.10. take care of health insurance and the provision of health care services for foreigners granted asylum;

8.1.11. in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania, establish social integration centres to temporarily accommodate foreigners granted asylum;

8.1.12. provide information and consultations to foreigners granted asylum on the matters of their social integration;

8.1.13. provide, on a regular basis, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour with information on the progress of individual social integration, as well as reports on the use of the funds allotted for the social integration programme;

8.1.14. submit proposals to the Ministry of Social Security and Labour for the extension of the period of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum, the reduction, suspension or renewal, termination of financial support for an individual programme, the additional allocation of funds and other matters of individual social integration;

8.2. if required, consult foreigners granted asylum on the finding of a permanent housing;

8.3. inform the public about foreigners granted asylum, who are resident in the territory of the municipality, in order to prevent their isolation, public xenophobia and to promote tolerance.

9. Non-governmental organisations, which have concluded cooperation agreements with the Ministry of Social Security and Labour or municipalities on the social integration of foreigners granted asylum, shall perform the functions specified in point 8 of this order.

10. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Health Care and municipalities may, within their competence, authorise their subordinate state institutions to perform the functions specified in points 6 to 8 of this order.

III. FINANCIAL SOURCES OF THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM

11. State support for the social integration of foreigners granted asylum shall be provided from the state budget of the Republic of Lithuania.

12. The social integration of foreigners granted asylum may be funded from assistance provided by foreign and international organisations, funds of humanitarian aid foundations and non-governmental organisations established by legal and/or natural persons of the Republic of Lithuania, as well as foreigner's own means, provided, he agrees.

IV. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM

13. The social integration of foreigners granted asylum shall be implemented on an individual basis, by adapting the general order for a single person or a family.

14. Upon submitting an application to the Ministry of Social Security and Labour to provide state support for integration into the Lithuanian society, foreigners granted asylum shall have the right to participate in the state supported social integration programme. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall approve an application form. If a person has property or financial means (own real estate, means of subsistence from legal activities in Lithuania, expensive movable property, money or securities) for the implementation of the directions specified in point 3 of this order, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall determine which social integration measures shall be funded from the state funds, and which shall be covered by a foreigner granted asylum himself.

A person applying for state support for social integration shall assist the state institutions or agencies in collecting information about his economic status, which would allow determining the necessary support. A person granted support should forthwith inform the institution implementing his individual social integration about changes in his living conditions that are relevant from the point of view of the provision of state support. If a foreigner granted asylum fails to provide or provides false information about his economic status without valid reasons, state support may be rejected or reduced.

15. The social integration programme is implemented in the territories of municipalities on the basis of cooperation agreements between the Ministry of Social Security and Labour and municipalities or non-governmental organisations. If the social integration programme is implemented by a non-governmental organisation, the municipality, in which foreigners granted asylum are settled, shall be informed about their settlement.

The social integration programme is also implemented at social integration centres established by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour. Municipalities or non-governmental organisations may establish such centres. The task of the centres is to prepare these persons according to the directions of social integration for independent life in the Lithuanian society. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall approve the model statutes of social integration centres.

16. The duration of the state supported individual social integration programme for foreigners, who are granted the refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, shall be 12 months, for foreigners, who are granted a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania on humanitarian grounds – up to 12 months, from the day of entry into force of an individual social integration agreement, but not exceeding the period of validity of the issued residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania.

Family members of foreigners, granted refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, who have come to the Republic of Lithuania for residence in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania on the grounds of family reunification and have a permanent residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania, shall participate in the social integration programme on the same grounds and conditions as foreigners, who are granted the refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania. The duration of the state supported individual social integration programme for family members, who have come to Lithuania for residence in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania on the grounds of family reunification, shall last to the end of the individual social integration programme of the foreigner, who is granted the refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, whom they joined, but not less than for 6 months.

If the individual social integration programme is not completed within the established period in the absence of fault of a foreigner granted asylum, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour may extend it for up to 12 months, but not exceeding the period of the validity of the issued residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania, by extending it for this period or concluding a new cooperation agreement with a municipality or non-governmental organisation. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall take a decision to extend the period of social integration on the basis of a motivated request by a foreigner granted asylum and respective conclusions by the institution implementing individual integration. A request shall be submitted not later than one month prior to the end of the individual social integration programme.

V. CONDITIONS OF THE ORGANISATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF A FOREIGNER GRANTED ASYLUM

17. Foreigners granted asylum, wishing to participate in the social integration programme, shall, not later than within 2 weeks after the day of the receipt of a permit for a permanent or temporary residence in the Republic of Lithuania, submit to the Ministry of Social Security and Labour an application to provide state support for integration into the Lithuanian society. An application may be submitted later than established only for valid reasons.

Foreigners granted asylum shall be notified that they have been granted the right to participate in the social integration programme, when issuing a permit for permanent or temporary residence in the Republic of Lithuania.

The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall, within 2 weeks after the day of the receipt of the application, take a decision concerning the inclusion of the foreigner granted asylum in the social integration programme and inform the applicant thereof.

18. Foreigners granted asylum, included in the social integration programme and staying at the Refugee Reception Centre, shall have the right to stay at this centre for a month after the day of the adoption of the decision concerning inclusion into the programme. If within a month no place of accommodation is found for these persons, the period of stay at the centre may be extended by the permission of the Ministry of Social Security and Labour. In this case the expenses incurred by the centre to maintain foreigners granted asylum shall be covered according to the rates set by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour from the funds allotted for the social integration programme.

If the foreigners granted asylum, staying at the Refugee Reception Centre, fail to file an application to provide state support for integration into the Lithuanian society, they shall leave the centre within 2 weeks after the day of the receipt of a permit for a permanent or temporary residence in the Republic of Lithuania.

19. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall submit proposals to municipalities or non-governmental organisations regarding the accommodation of foreigners granted asylum, the organisation of their individual social integration, as well as regarding the procedure and conditions for allocating funds for the social integration programme. At the request of the municipalities or non-governmental organisations, they shall be provided with all relevant information about persons proposed for social integration, with the exception of confidential information. Municipalities or non-governmental organisations, who agree to implement the individual social integration of foreigners granted asylum shall inform the Ministry of Social Security and Labour about the rent conditions of residential premises and the organisation of employment.

20. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall conclude cooperation agreements with municipalities, in which foreigners granted asylum are settled or already live, or with non-governmental organisations on the social integration of these persons. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall establish a standard agreement form. An agreement shall be concluded for the period of the social integration of a foreigner granted asylum. The institution implementing individual social integration shall appoint a staff member responsible for the implementation of the programme (hereinafter referred to as a coordinator).

A non-governmental organisation, which has concluded a cooperation agreement, shall open a separate account to keep the funds of the social integration programme, which is intended for the accounting of budgetary funds.

21. The individual social integration of foreigners granted asylum, who are of pensionable age, disabled and minors unaccompanied by parents or other legitimate representatives (hereinafter referred to as unaccompanied minors) may be implemented in care institutions.

The social integration of unaccompanied minors may be implemented in the place of residence of guardians appointed in accordance with the procedure established by laws.

22. Foreigners granted asylum, independently finding a place of residence, shall move to it, informing thereof the Ministry of Social Security and Labour.

23. The individual social integration programme of foreigners granted asylum, who were allowed to live in their chosen place of residence during the examination of their applications to grant refugee status or to issue a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania on humanitarian grounds, shall be implemented in their place of residence. Having

a decision of the Ministry of Social Security and Labour on inclusion into the social integration programme, a foreigner granted asylum shall personally apply to a municipality or non-governmental organisation for the organisation of his social integration.

24. If the municipality or non-governmental organisation refuses to implement the individual social integration of foreigners granted asylum, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall arrange its implementation through its authorised state institution.

25. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall take a decision concerning the transfer of particular persons to the place of accommodation and informs thereof the foreigner granted asylum, and the Refugee Reception Centre, if the person is staying at it.

26. Foreigners granted asylum, refusing the proposed place of residence without valid reasons, shall not be provided with another place of residence. The foreigner granted asylum or the Refugee Reception Centre shall, within one week after familiarisation with the decision on the place of accommodation, notify in writing the Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the refusal to move to that place of accommodation. In this case foreigners granted asylum, staying at the Refugee Reception Centre shall leave the centre within 2 weeks from the day of familiarisation with the decision.

27. The institution implementing the individual social integration programme shall conclude an agreement with a foreigner granted asylum or his family on individual social integration, indicating the duties, rights, and responsibility of the parties to the agreement and the period of validity. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall establish a standard agreement form.

The institution implementing the individual social integration programme shall, not later than 2 months after the settlement of the foreigner granted asylum, together with the foreigner, prepare an individual (or family) action plan for the implementation of the social integration programme (hereinafter referred to as the action plan). The action plan shall specify for each person individually the scope, content of the social integration programme, as well as the terms of the implementation of separate integration measures. If needed, the institution implementing the individual social integration programme of a foreigner granted asylum may later adjust the action plan.

28. Foreigners granted asylum shall be given a single settlement grant, the amount whereof shall be calculated according to the following rates:

for an adult – 10 amounts of the minimum standard of living;

for a child under 18 years of age – 7 amounts of the minimum standard of living.

A single settlement grant for a family may not exceed 30 amounts of the minimum standard of living.

A single settlement grant shall be provided together with other funds of the social integration programme of a foreigner granted asylum and transferred to the account of the institution implementing individual social integration.

A single settlement grant shall be used to purchase the necessary furniture and household articles, if needed, to cover the travelling expenses and the expenses of the transportation of luggage to the place of residence. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall prepare a standard recommendatory list of the necessary furniture and household articles.

The institution implementing individual social integration shall assist a foreigner granted asylum to move to the place of residence and to purchase necessities. This institution shall directly pay to companies that provided services for the expenses of transportation and the purchase of goods, not exceeding the amount allocated for a single settlement grant.

VI. TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION OF FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM

29. For the period of integration foreigners granted asylum may be accommodated in:

29.1. residential premises of the main, manoeuvre and special available housing rented out by municipalities;

29.2. residential premises rented out by companies, institutions or organisations and natural persons;

29.3. care institutions or the place of residence of guardians;

29.4. social integration centres.

30. In providing residential premises for foreigners granted asylum, the norms of population housing shall be observed. Residential premises must conform to the sanitary and technical requirements.

31. When accommodating in the territories of municipalities, a priority shall be given to foreigners, who are granted the refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania. In the absence of such a possibility, foreigners, who are granted asylum and the refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, shall be temporarily accommodated at social integration centres. During the period of social integration foreigners, granted a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania on humanitarian grounds, shall be, as a rule, accommodated at social integration centres.

32. Upon arrival to the place of accommodation, a foreigner granted asylum must inform the migration service of the police commissariat about his place of residence in the Republic of Lithuania in accordance with the procedure established by legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania.

33. When renting residential premises from the available housing of municipalities, companies, institutions, organisations or natural persons, a fixed-term agreement for the rent of residential premises between the institution implementing the individual social integration programme and the owner of premises shall be concluded in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts for the period of the social integration of a foreigner granted asylum.

If the available residential premises of municipalities are not sufficient to accommodate foreigners granted asylum, residential premises rented out by companies, institutions, organisations or natural persons with the least flat rent and fees for cold and hot water, electricity, gas, heating and other public utilities shall be chosen.

34. Rent for residential premises (excepting charges for cold and hot water, electricity, gas, heating, other public utilities) together with the personal income tax of the lessor shall not exceed the following rates:

34.1. up to the amount of 2 state supported income per month – for one person or a family of 2 members;

34.2. up to the amount of 3 state supported income per month – for a family of 3 to 5 members;

34.3. up to the amount of 4 state supported income per month – for a family of 6 and more members.

35. Fees for cold and hot water, electricity, gas, heating and other public utilities shall be calculated separately, according to the tariffs and rates applied in municipalities, and paid not exceeding the calculated amount. If the foreigners granted asylum exceed the amount calculated according to these tariffs and rates, they shall pay the difference or this difference may be deducted from a monthly grant for necessities they receive.

A foreigner granted asylum shall pay for communication (except the subscription fee), cable television and similar services himself.

On the expiration of the period of integration, a foreigner granted asylum must move from the residential premises provided to him, otherwise he may be evicted in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania. He must find other residential premises himself. The institution implementing individual social integration may at his wish provide consulting to him on the issue of housing.

Upon the agreement of the lessor to extend the rent of residential premises, a new agreement for the rent of residential premises may be concluded with the same foreigner granted asylum, undertaking an obligation to pay the flat rent at his own expense, as well as to pay the fees for cold and hot water, electricity, gas, heating and other public utilities.

36. Foreigners granted asylum, who are of pensionable age, unaccompanied minors or disabled, and who may not live independently and require care, nursing and medical attendance, shall be accommodated by municipalities in care institutions, with prior coordination thereof with these persons and their legitimate representatives (if any). The expenses of the maintenance and social integration of foreigners granted asylum, accommodated in care institutions, shall be paid from the funds allotted for the social integration programme. The expenses of maintenance shall be calculated according to the existing rates of these institutions, and the expenses of the implementation of separate social integration measures shall be calculated according to this order. On the expiration of the period of integration, foreigners granted asylum shall be maintained in care institutions in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania.

Upon the accommodation of unaccompanied minors in the place of residence of guardians, the expenses of their maintenance and social integration shall be paid from the funds allotted for the social integration programme. A childcare grant shall be calculated in accordance with the procedure established by laws of the Republic of Lithuania, and the expenses of the implementation of separate social integration measures shall be calculated according to this order. On the expiration of the period of integration, children having guardians shall be maintained in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania.

VII. EDUCATION OF FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM

37. Foreigners granted asylum shall enjoy the right to study in the Republic of Lithuania in accordance with the procedure established by the Law on Education and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania.

38. During the period of social integration, education shall be organised for foreigners granted asylum in order to:

- 38.1. teach the Lithuanian language;
- 38.2. provide knowledge about the Lithuanian society;
- 38.3. prepare and teach children at secondary, vocational or high schools;
- 38.4. educate children of pre-school age in pre-school educational institutions.

39. Educational institutions, to which foreigners granted asylum are sent for studies, shall participate in the preparation of the action plans indicated in point 27 of this order.

40. The institution implementing the individual social integration of foreigners granted asylum shall organise the teaching of the Lithuanian language according to the programmes for the Lithuanian language teaching approved by the Ministry of Education and Science, designed for non-native speakers.

Courses on the Lithuanian language for foreigners granted asylum shall be paid from the funds allotted for the social integration programme, and officially registered by an

agreement between the institution implementing individual social integration and a Lithuanian language teaching institution or a teacher. Courses shall be paid in accordance with the rates applied in the educational system.

41. The teaching of the Lithuanian language for foreigners granted asylum shall be organised taking into account the peculiarities of different age groups. Lithuanian language teaching programmes for adults should be related to future work, for children – to their education at secondary, vocational or high schools.

42. Adults may be taught the Lithuanian language in two ways:

42.1. in groups, i.e. by teaching in courses of the Lithuanian language organised by certain institution;

42.2. individually, i.e. by hiring a competent teacher of the Lithuanian language.

43. Courses of the first qualification category on the state language for adult foreigners granted asylum shall be organised according to a 190-hour programme. If needed, courses according to a 290-hours programme shall be organised for persons with incomplete primary education and illiterate persons.

When determining the way of the teaching of the Lithuanian language for adults and the duration of courses, in each particular case one should determine the level of the knowledge of the Lithuanian language and the education acquired in the country of origin of an individual. Education may be confirmed by documents recognised by the Ministry of Education and Science (certificates, diplomas).

44. An institution or teacher organising courses of the Lithuanian language shall be responsible for proper use of the funds allotted for education. When concluding an agreement for the teaching of the Lithuanian language, the foreseen initial payment shall not exceed half of the funds allotted for the teaching of the Lithuanian language. Another part of the funds allotted for the teaching of the Lithuanian language shall be paid upon the receipt of the approval by a Lithuanian language teaching institution or teacher, that a foreigner granted asylum endeavours to learn the Lithuanian language. If a foreigner granted asylum does not make any efforts and misses classes without valid reasons, his coordinator shall be notified thereof immediately. On proposal by the institution implementing individual social integration, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour may reduce the funds allotted for the teaching of the Lithuanian language with respect to such a foreigner granted asylum.

45. If a foreigner granted asylum fails to pass the first qualification category examination of the state language for valid reasons (mental disorder, inability to learn homework within the allotted time, etc.), the Ministry of Social Security and Labour, upon coordination with the Ministry of Education and Science, may additionally provide a course of up to 100 hours.

46. A foreigner granted asylum, having passed the examination of the first qualification category before the beginning of the implementation of the social integration programme or having not used the allotted 190 hours, may continue his studies according to a programme of 180-hour Lithuanian language courses of the second qualification category, not exceeding the funds allotted for the teaching of the Lithuanian language.

47. 180-hour Lithuanian language courses of the second qualification category may be organised by a decision of the Ministry of Social Security and Labour for a foreigner, who is granted refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, having passed the examination of the first qualification category within the allotted time and wishing to improve the Lithuanian language for the purpose of employment or education, The expenses of the organisation of courses shall be paid from the funds allotted for the social integration programme of foreigners granted asylum.

48. Adult foreigners granted asylum, having passed the examination of the first or second qualification category and wishing to enter adult general education, high or higher

schools during the period of social integration, may try to reach the level of high education in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania.

49. The institution implementing individual social integration shall organise through educational departments of municipalities an introductory course on the Lithuanian society for foreigners granted asylum with sufficient knowledge of the Lithuanian language according to the programme approved by the Ministry of Education and Science. The expenses of the organisation of the course shall be paid under agreement from the funds allotted for the social integration programme.

50. During the period of social integration, school-age children of foreigners granted asylum shall attend the state and municipal secondary, vocational or high schools free of charge in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania. Parents shall pay for the education of children at private educational institutions themselves.

Taking into account specific conditions, the preparedness of a pupil, language knowledge, if needed, an individual educational plan and schedule of classes may be drawn up for children of foreigners granted asylum at state and municipal secondary schools. Those who do not know the Lithuanian language shall be provided with facilities to intensively learn it.

The teaching of the Lithuanian language for children of 6 to 9 years of age, who do not know the Lithuanian language or speak it poorly, may be organised in pre-school educational groups, for children of 10 to 18 years of age additional Lithuanian language classes may be prepared. If needed, additional teaching of the Lithuanian language for school-age children, upon an agreement with a school or teacher, may be paid from the funds allotted for the social integration programme of foreigners granted asylum.

Classes and optional courses, as well as Sunday schools may be established for children of foreigners granted asylum to learn and improve their native language. Having concluded an agreement with a school, these classes may be paid from the funds allotted for the social integration programme of foreigners granted asylum.

51. Additional lessons of separate subjects may be organised at secondary schools for children of foreigners granted asylum according to the educational programmes developed by a teacher, if needed, paid from the funds allotted for the social integration programme. At the request of parents and if there is a possibility, the funds allotted for this programme may be used to organise additional lessons of the ethnic culture, traditional religion of their country of origin.

Before the beginning of the academic year, school-age children of foreigners granted asylum shall be provided with a sum in the amount of up to 1 minimum standard of living from the funds allotted for the social integration programme to purchase the necessary school materials. A coordinator shall pay for them to trading companies directly, not exceeding the amount of the funds allotted for this purpose.

52. At the request of parents, preschool-age children of foreigners granted asylum may be, during the period of social integration, educated at nursery schools, kindergartens and kindergartens–schools. The education of children in state and municipal pre-school educational institutions shall be paid from the funds allotted for the social integration programme. Additional classes of the Lithuanian language may be organised for these children. Having concluded an agreement with a pre-school educational institution, these classes may be paid from the funds allotted for the social integration programme.

53. Additional classes provided for in the third and fourth paragraphs of point 50, the first paragraph of point 51 and point 52 of this order shall be paid not exceeding the funds allotted for individual social integration under a cooperation agreement.

VIII. EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM

54. Foreigners granted asylum shall have equal rights with the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania to freely choose a job or to engage in another activity that is not prohibited by laws, unless laws provide that this activity is subject to the Lithuanian citizenship.

If foreigners granted asylum need state support in getting a job, additional measures of the organisation of their employment shall be implemented with the funds allotted for the social integration programme.

55. During the period of social integration the employment of foreigners granted asylum shall be organised in order to:

55.1. introduce to the situation in the Lithuanian labour market and help orient themselves to their possibilities;

55.2. assist in getting ready for the labour market by improving qualifications, changing or acquiring a new profession;

55.3. create conditions for acquiring the necessary length of state social insurance in order to receive an unemployment benefit;

55.4. inform and, when needed, support in organising independent business;

55.5. assist in getting a job under labour contracts.

56. A foreigner granted asylum, who needs state support in getting a job, shall, with the help of the coordinator, immediately register at the territorial labour exchange and receive the status of the unemployed. As the other unemployed, he shall be provided with the state employment guarantees in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania.

57. The territorial labour exchange shall participate in preparing an action plan for a foreigner granted asylum as specified in point 27 of this order. The planned measures of employment must be intended to help a person get a job. When planning measures of employment, account should be taken of the person's profession, previous employment in the country of citizenship, permanent residence or the third country, age and cultural traditions. When needed, special programmes may be developed in order to relate his vocational and Lithuanian language training with work.

58. When needed, the institution implementing the social integration of a foreigner granted asylum shall conclude an agreement with the territorial labour exchange on the implementation of employment measures. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall establish an agreement form. An agreement shall specify the measures of the organisation of employment, which will be covered from the funds allotted for the social integration programme. The amount of the funds needed for the implementation of these measures shall be determined according to the existing rates. The funds of the social integration programme allotted for the implementation of the employment measures specified in the agreement shall be transferred to the territorial labour exchange or to the Employment Fund.

59. The territorial labour exchange shall introduce a foreigner granted asylum to the situation in the national and local labour market. At the request of a foreigner, a psychologist consultant from the training centre of the Lithuanian labour market shall help orient him to his possibilities and to choose an appropriate area of future activities.

60. The territorial labour exchange along with the municipality shall organise public works to temporarily employ foreigners granted asylum, and the territorial labour exchange shall organise full- or part-time works supported by the Employment Fund and corresponding to their preparedness and the state of health. These works shall give them a possibility to acquire the necessary length of state social insurance in order to receive an unemployment

benefit, to check professional motivation and skills. Funds to organise public works and works supported by the Employment Fund shall be allotted from the funds of the social integration programme.

61. When needed, the territorial labour exchange shall organise vocational training for a foreigner granted asylum (acquisition of a profession or improvement of qualifications). Training shall be organised by selecting a training programme according to his professional motivation and skills. Vocational training may be carried out according to specially adapted programmes including individual programmes and shall be paid from the funds allotted for the social integration programme.

62. New jobs may be created for the employment of foreigners granted asylum. Funds for the establishment of new jobs shall be allotted from the funds of the social integration programme. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall establish the procedure for their establishment. The creation of a job for a particular person may be paid only once.

63. If a foreigner granted asylum refuses, without a valid reason, to perform public works or works supported by the Employment Fund, or to take the proposed vocational training, as well as upon his dismissal from these works or training, the funds allotted for the social integration programme shall not be allocated for the organisation of his employment again.

64. Foreigners, who are granted refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, shall be employed under labour contracts according to the general order as other permanent residents of the Republic of Lithuania, and foreigners, who have received a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania on humanitarian grounds, shall be employed upon the issue of a work permit by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour or its authorised institution.

65. The territorial labour exchange, in helping a foreigner granted asylum get a job under a labour contract, must propose several (if feasible) options of employment.

66. Additional employment guarantees shall be applied to foreigners, who are granted refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, falling under the categories of the unemployed indicated in Article 8 of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Support for the Unemployed.

67. The territorial labour exchange shall provide a foreigner granted asylum with information about possibilities to organise independent business in Lithuania. If a person wishing and ready to set up his own business submits a business plan or a programme of creative activities, in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania, he may be granted a loan without interest for the organisation of own business from the funds allotted for the social integration programme, transferring them to the Employment Fund.

A person organising his own business may be granted single financial support from the funds allotted for the social integration programme to acquire a patent, licence and working supplies.

68. A foreigner granted asylum, who has completed courses of the Lithuanian language, vocational training and temporarily performed public works or works supported by the Employment Fund, must actively search for employment possibilities. When needed, he may apply to private labour exchanges for a job, paying for the services at his own expense.

69. In cases, when the employment programme of a foreigner granted asylum, including the teaching of the Lithuanian language, continues for 12 months and over, the programme shall include a 1-month period of rest, so that the duration of the employment programme should not exceed 11 months within a 12-month period. The time of rest shall be coordinated with the person.

70. Foreigners granted asylum shall acquire the right to receive an unemployment benefit, provided they performed public works or works supported by the Employment Fund

or completed vocational training through the commission by the labour exchange within the last 12 months after their registration in the labour exchange, and the total period of these works and training lasted for not less than 180 calendar days or for the period lacking for the necessary length of state social insurance, if it comprises no more than 180 calendar days. Foreigners granted asylum shall be paid an unemployment benefit in the amount of state supported income in accordance with the procedure established by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania. An unemployment benefit shall be paid from the funds of the Employment Fund by the territorial labour exchange.

IX. SOCIAL SECURITY OF FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM

71. During the period of social integration foreigners granted asylum, who cannot maintain themselves with their earned and other income, shall be entitled to monthly allowance for their basic needs, i.e. food, clothes, hygienic items, public transport, etc. (hereinafter referred to as a monthly allowance) from the funds allotted for the social integration programme.

72. Monthly allowances, awarded to foreigners granted asylum, shall comprise 90 percent of the amount of the state supported income for a family, established in the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Guarantees on the Income of Residents.

These allowances shall not be awarded to those foreigners granted asylum, who are of pensionable age, disabled and unaccompanied minors and who receive stationary social services in care institutions, as well as to unaccompanied minors, who are accommodated at the place of residence of the appointed guardian. In such cases they shall be maintained from the funds allotted for the social integration programme in accordance with the procedure specified in point 36 of this order.

73. A monthly allowance shall be paid to a foreigner granted asylum until he obtains an independent source of subsistence (salary, income from own business, pension, scholarship, etc.).

74. The payment of a monthly allowance for a foreigner granted asylum, who performs public works, works supported by the Employment Fund, participates in vocational training, receives an unemployment benefit or is away from Lithuania for a period exceeding 1 month, shall be suspended by a decision of the institution implementing individual social integration. If a salary or unemployment (training) benefit is smaller than the monthly allowance he is entitled to, the difference between the allowance entitlement and the salary or unemployment (training) benefit received shall be paid.

If an unemployment benefit for a foreigner granted asylum is due to his fault reduced or its payment discontinued, the payment of a monthly allowance shall not be renewed.

75. Upon the death of a foreigner granted asylum, his family members or persons, who covered funeral expense, may be awarded a funeral grant of up to 6 amounts of minimum standard of living from the funds allotted for the social integration programme, provided such a grant cannot be awarded pursuant to valid laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

76. For the period of social integration foreigners, who are granted asylum and the refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, shall, in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on State Benefits for Families with Children, be entitled to a lump-sum child-birth benefit, a family benefit paid for every child under 3 years of age, and a benefit for families bringing up 3 children and more.

Foreigners, who are granted refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, may be provided with other allowances, scholarships, compensations and services established by laws of the Republic of Lithuania for permanent residents of the country.

77. A state social insurance pension shall be awarded to foreigners, who are granted refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, and who have the status of the permanent resident of the Republic of Lithuania, in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on State Social Insurance Pensions, provided these persons satisfy the conditions for the award of state social insurance pensions as specified in the law.

For the period of social integration foreigners, who are granted refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania and who are not compulsorily insured by state social pension insurance in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on State Social Insurance Pensions, may be insured by state voluntary social pension insurance. The funds allotted for the social integration programme shall be used for the insurance of these persons, and they shall be equalled to persons insured by state voluntary social pension insurance for the basic part of the pension in accordance with the procedure established by the rules for state voluntary social pension insurance.

78. Foreigners, who are granted refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania, satisfying the requirements laid down by the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Relief (Social) Pensions, for the period of social integration shall be entitled to a relief (social) pension in accordance with the procedure established by this law.

X. HEALTH CARE OF FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM

79. Health care of foreigners granted asylum during the period of social integration shall be organised in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Health System, the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Health Insurance and other legal acts in order to:

79.1. ensure personal health care services;

79.2. provide public health care services.

80. During the period from the issue of a permit for a permanent or temporary residence in the Republic of Lithuania till the insurance by mandatory health insurance, foreigners granted asylum (depending on their status) shall be provided with medical service pursuant to the scope and procedure established by the laws indicated in point 79 and other legal acts.

81. Upon entry into force of an individual social integration agreement, every uninsured foreigner granted asylum shall be forthwith insured by mandatory health insurance from the funds allotted for the social integration programme. A foreigner granted asylum, who is unemployed but refuses services of the labour exchange, shall pay health insurance contributions himself.

The institution implementing social integration shall conclude an agreement with the territorial patient fund on mandatory health insurance in respect of a foreigner granted asylum until the end of the calendar year, when the period of integration established is not shorter. On the expiration of the agreement on mandatory health insurance, if the category of the insured has not changed and the period of integration has not expired, a new agreement shall be concluded until the end of the current year or the period of integration. Contributions to the budget of the Mandatory Health Insurance Fund shall be of the same amount as contributions from the state budget of the Republic of Lithuania for persons insured at the state expense (which are annually determined by the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania when approving the state budget of the Republic of Lithuania) and paid every month in proportionally divided instalments of the amount specified in the agreement.

82. The agreement on mandatory health insurance and the payment of monthly contributions shall be discontinued, when a person registers himself in the labour exchange,

starts working under a labour contract or sets up his own business. From the beginning of the working activities, the mandatory health insurance of a foreigner granted asylum shall be provided by the employer of the foreigner granted asylum or by the person himself, who has set up his own business.

83. The territorial patient fund shall issue a single certificate of social insurance and mandatory health insurance for an insured adult foreigner granted asylum, inform about personal health care services provided, the order and conditions of their provision. An insured person, who holds a certificate, may according to the established order choose a personal health care institution and receive personal health care services guaranteed by mandatory health insurance.

84. The insured foreigners granted asylum shall be provided according to general order with personal health care services paid from the budget of the Mandatory Health Insurance Fund.

Health care institutions shall provide information to foreigners granted asylum about personal health care services, which are not reckoned among those paid from the budget of the Mandatory Health Insurance Fund, as well as the order and conditions of their provision.

85. Foreigners granted asylum shall be provided with public health care services according to the established order. They shall be provided with the key information on nutrition and food quality, peculiarities of the place of residence and housing, conditions of work, education and rest, explained the harm of alcohol, tobacco and drugs, as well as introduced to hygiene standards, family planning measures, prevention of infectious diseases, possibilities to be infected or infect other people with communicable diseases. Foreigners granted asylum shall be guaranteed the right to have vaccinations against infectious diseases according to the approved calendar of vaccinations. Public health care services shall be provided to these persons by health training centres of counties and cities, territorial public health centres, other health care institutions within their competence.

86. Health care services shall be provided to a foreigner granted asylum with his consent, with the exception of cases provided by laws, when such services may be provided without his consent.

The application of the measures of compulsory hospitalisation, compulsory diagnostics and compulsory treatment shall be allowed only on the grounds and in accordance with the procedure established by laws, when there is a real threat, that these persons by their actions or through their state of health may cause harm to their health and life or to the health and life of other people.

87. The institution implementing individual social integration may, with the consent of a foreigner granted asylum, apply to a doctor or a health care institution with a request to provide information about his health or the health of his family members that is important for ensuring social integration. When needed, a health care institution shall participate in the preparation of actions plans for foreigners granted asylum as specified in point 27 of this order.

XI. PUBLIC INFORMATION ABOUT FOREIGNERS GRANTED ASYLUM

88. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall maintain constant relations with the media – it shall provide information on the situation of foreigners granted asylum in the country, with the exception of confidential information relating to a particular person, prepare press conferences on the matters of their social integration, implement other measures of public education.

89. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour along with municipalities shall organise meetings with local population, parties and public organisations to discuss issues related to foreigners granted asylum. The Ministry shall organise the publication and distribution of various publications (information bulletins, brochures, leaflets, etc.) about the social integration of foreigners granted asylum. The expenses related to the organisation of meetings and the preparation of publications shall be paid with the funds allotted for the social integration programme.

90. Both state institutions or agencies and non-governmental and international organisations may help the Ministry of Social Security and Labour and municipalities inform the public about foreigners granted asylum, in order to prevent their isolation, public xenophobia and to promote tolerance.

91. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour along with municipalities shall support initiatives and areas of activities that are important for solving integration, ethnic equality and tolerance problems, as well as national communities of foreigners granted asylum, which assist in the preservation of their language, religion, traditions and cultural heritage. The Ministry shall also consider projects of appropriate measures prepared by various institutions and non-governmental organisations and may provide financial support for their implementation from the funds allotted for the social integration programme according to the presented estimation.

XII. FINAL PROVISIONS

92. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour along with other institutions involved in the social integration of foreigners granted asylum shall annually prepare preliminary estimates of the funds needed from the state budget of the Republic of Lithuania to ensure the social integration process of foreigners granted asylum.

93. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall manage the allocations for the social integration programme and be responsible for the allotment of funds for individual and common social integration measures. The Ministry shall control how institutions implementing individual social integration use the funds allotted for the social integration programme.

94. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall allot funds for the implementation of the individual social integration programme of a foreigner granted asylum or his family according to the estimates of the funds needed for separate measures. If in implementing this programme funds allotted for a certain measure are saved, the institution implementing individual social integration may, with the consent of the Ministry, use them for other integration measures of the foreigner granted asylum or his family. When making later adjustments to the action plan, the Ministry may allot additional funds for the implementation of new measures, not exceeding the allocations for the social integration programme, provided it is necessary to ensure successful social integration and provided a person actively participates in the foreseen social integration measures.

95. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour, on the proposal of the institution implementing individual social integration, may provide additional support from the funds allotted for the social integration programme for a foreigner granted asylum, who in the course of social integration has incurred unforeseen expenses that are obvious, justified and vital for the living of the individual or his family.

96. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall organise the training and improvement of qualifications of public servants of municipalities, other institutions and

agencies, as well as staff of non-governmental organisations, who contribute to the implementation of individual social integration.

97. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour may allot up to 15 percent of the funds, which are allotted for the social integration programme, for the needs of institutions implementing individual social integration (municipalities, non-governmental organisations, etc., with the exception of those, which are fully supported from the funds of the Lithuanian state or municipal budgets and the main function whereof is to implement the social integration of foreigners granted asylum), primarily, to administer the social integration programme.

98. State financial support for the social integration of a foreigner granted asylum may be reduced, suspended or discontinued by a decision of the Ministry of Social Security and Labour pursuant to the following provisions:

98.1. support for the social integration of a foreigner granted asylum may be reduced if:

98.1.1. he misses courses of the Lithuanian language more than twice without a valid reason;

98.1.2. a person, who needs state support in getting a job, does not come to the labour exchange for registration or refuses to take a job or vocational training offered to him without a valid reason;

98.1.3. on invitation, he fails to see his co-ordinator more than twice without a valid reason;

98.1.4. he fails, without a valid reason, to carry out other measures foreseen in the action plan or to follow the obligations set in the agreement on individual social integration;

98.1.5. he misinforms (or fails to inform in general without a valid reason) the institution implementing social integration about changes in his living conditions that are relevant from the point of view of the provision of state support;

98.1.6. during the last 3 months, the monthly income of a person (income related to labour relations, income from business, etc.) was higher than half of the support granted by the state for all the directions of social integration per month;

98.2. support for the social integration of a foreigner granted asylum may be suspended or discontinued if:

98.2.1. he leaves the Republic of Lithuania for a period exceeding 3 months and does not return before the end of the period of integration;

98.2.2. he is in pre-trial detention or imprisoned;

98.2.3. he misinforms (or fails to inform in general without valid reason) the institution implementing social integration about changes in his living conditions when this information would be relevant from the point of view of the provision of state support;

98.2.4. during the last 3 months, the monthly income of a person (income related to labour relations, income from business, etc.) was higher than the support granted by the state for all the directions of social integration per month.

A decision of the Ministry of Social Security and Labour to reduce, suspend or discontinue financial support for the social integration of a foreigner granted asylum shall be taken upon the evaluation of the information and recommendations presented by the institution implementing individual social integration; if possible, account shall also be taken of explanations given by the foreigner granted asylum.

Upon the evaluation of the information and recommendations presented by the institution implementing individual social integration, the social integration programme may be renewed at the motivated request of a foreigner granted asylum, provided the term of its implementation according to the agreement on individual social integration has not expired yet.

99. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall manage the records of foreigners granted asylum, who participate in the social integration programme.

100. The Ministry of Social Security and Labour shall annually prepare information for the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on the implementation of the social integration of foreigners granted asylum.
