



# Mapping of social orientation: the case of Estonia

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January 2018

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# I. Legal and institutional framework

## 1. Legal framework of social orientation

The adaptation programme has been established by § 223<sup>1</sup> of the *Aliens Act (amendment RT I, 02 July 2013, 3 – entry into force 01 September 2013)* and a regulation of the Minister of the Interior (*Adaptation Programme, RT I, 22 August 2014, 5*).

The participation of an alien in the adaptation programme has been regulated by § 121<sup>1</sup> of the *Aliens Act (amendment RT I, 02 July 2013, 3 – entry into force 01 September 2013)*.

The participation of EU-nationals in the adaptation programme has been regulated by § 49<sup>1</sup> of the *Citizen of the European Union Act (amendment RT I, 23 March 2015, 1 – entry into force 01 August 2015)*.

The participation of beneficiaries of international protection in the adaptation programme has been regulated by § 47<sup>1</sup> (*amendment RT I, 23 March 2015, 1 – entry into force 01 August 2015*) and § 75(4<sup>5</sup>) (*amendment RT I, 06 April 2016, 1 – entry into force 01 May 2016*) of the *Act on Granting International Protection to Aliens*.

In addition, § 228 of the *Aliens Act (amendment RT I, 23 March 2015, 1 – entry into force 01 August 2015)* and § 77 of the *Act on Granting International Protection to Aliens (amendment RT I, 23 March 2015, 1 – entry into force 01 August 2015)* regulate maintenance of the database which includes data on the proceedings related to adaptation programme.

Integration services provided for settled migrants (those who have lived in Estonia for more than 5 years) have been outlined in The Strategy of Integration and Social Cohesion in Estonia “Integrating Estonia 2020”.<sup>1</sup> The services for settled migrants include Estonian language courses and counselling service but not social orientation courses.

## 2. Course/module providers

The Ministry of the Interior which is responsible for the adaptation programme announces public procurements or open calls to find and contract the course providers. Previously (for the period of 2015-2017), the responsibility of carrying out the studying and research modules has been delegated to Estonian Research Council (research module) and Archimedes Foundation (studying module), the latter being an independent body established by the Estonian government with the objective to coordinate and implement different international and national programmes and projects in the field of training, education and research. Thus, different schemes were in place to find course providers for modules of adaptation programme and several organisations acted as course providers. The course provider for the period of 2018-2020, however, needs to provide all modules except for the international protection module. The course provider for the international protection module is found through a separate open call.

The course provider for all modules except for the international protection module for the period of 2018-2020 is required to have experience in providing courses of Estonian language, and either in providing courses for the newly-arrived migrants, in providing adaptation programmes or in providing counselling/support person service, all within the last 3 years. In addition, the service provider is required to have the following professional qualification:

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<sup>1</sup> [“The Strategy of Integration and Social Cohesion in Estonia ‘Integrating Estonia 2020’](#), Estonian Ministry of Culture, accessed 2 January 2018.

- activity licence for language courses issued by Ministry of Science and Education or ensure at least two contracted lecturers who have tertiary education and combined proficiency in Estonian, English and Russian (at least level C1) and who have at least 2-year experience in Estonian language courses to non-native-speakers;
- at least two contracted lecturers who have tertiary education and combined proficiency in Estonian, English and Russian (at least level B2) and who have at least 2-year experience in practical activities (courses, seminars, individual counselling, support service or other practical activities requiring direct communication) targeted to non-native-speakers.<sup>2</sup>

The course provider for international protection module for 2018-2019 may be any legal person in public or private law, governmental body, institution administered by a governmental body or international organisation whose activities are in accordance to the adaptation programme. The course provider needs to have necessary knowledge, skills, experience and sufficient administrative aptness to carry out the courses. There are no specific requirements on professional qualification of experts. However, the necessary experience of the team to carry out the courses are considered when assessing the tenders.<sup>3</sup>

## II. Audience

### 1. Coverage of social orientation courses, by category of non-nationals

The number of participants in each module of the adaptation programme in 2015-2017 is presented below. Here, it is important to consider that one individual may have participated in several modules.

Name of the module	No. of EU nationals	No. of third country nationals	No. of beneficiaries of international protection
Basic module	86	387	14
Working and entrepreneurship module	70	403	11
Studying module	20	138	5
Research module	22	50	4
Family life module	26	212	3
Children and young people module	2	22	3
International protection module	X	X	131

Source: Estonian Ministry of the Interior<sup>4</sup>

There have been around 7,500 newly arrived immigrants per year in 2015 and 2016 (the statistics for 2017 has not been published yet) with approximately 45% being EU nationals and 55% third country nationals.<sup>5</sup> Thus, approximately 9% of the third country nationals and 3% of the EU nationals have participated in the basic module of the adaptation programme

<sup>2</sup> ["Kohanemisprogramm uusimmigrantidele"](#) ["Adaptation Programme for newly-arrived migrants"], Tender Specification, E-procurement Estonia, accessed 19 January 2018.

<sup>3</sup> ["Juhend toetuse taotlejale. Varjupaiga, Rände- ja Integratsioonifondi 2017. aasta integratsiooni valdkonna kolmas avalik taotlusvoor"](#) ["Guide for Applicants. The third open call of Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund 2017"], Estonian Ministry of the Interior, accessed 2 January 2018.

<sup>4</sup> Martin Tullit (Estonian Ministry of the Interior), e-mail correspondence to author, February 9, 2018

<sup>5</sup> [Statistics Estonia](#). online database, accessed 19 January 2018.

For several reasons, it is somewhat difficult to estimate the coverage of international protection module. First, participation in the module is obligatory for the beneficiaries of international protection since 2016. However, the coverage in 2016 and 2017 is not 100% as a number of minors have not participated in any module of the adaptation programme. Second, statistics shows that altogether 220 individuals were granted international protection in 2015-2016<sup>6</sup>, but the statistics for 2017 has not yet been published. Therefore, the estimation of the coverage of international protection module for 2015 would not be precise and thus is not presented.

## 2. Categories of non-nationals having access to / obligation to attend social orientation courses/modules

There are no social orientation courses available for **persons seeking international protection**. However, they may attend Estonian language courses on voluntary basis.

In Estonia, there is only one social orientation programme, which is the adaptation programme organised by the state. The adaptation programme is voluntary for **foreign nationals who have legally resided in Estonia for less than 5 years and are in one of the following categories:**

- 1) foreign nationals who have been granted temporary residence permit in Estonia based on the Aliens Act or the Act on Granting International Protection to Aliens;
- 2) citizens of the European Union who have acquired the temporary right of residence in Estonia on the basis stipulated in the Citizen of the European Union Act;
- 3) family members of citizens of the European Union who have been granted the temporary right of residence in Estonia on the basis stipulated in the Citizen of the European Union Act.

Therefore, the adaptation programme is available for the **newly-arrived immigrants** who have resided in Estonia for less than 5 years, including EU citizens and third country migrants. All non-nationals who have been issued a residence permit since 1 August 2015 have been offered to participate in adaptation programme by Estonian Police and Border Guard Board. Those who have been issued a residence permit before 1 August 2015 and have legally resided in Estonia for less than 5 years need to apply for the course themselves. Participation in adaptation programme is also offered by Estonian Police and Border Guard Board when extending the residence permit. There are no sanctions if a newly-arrived migrant does not participate in the adaptation programme.<sup>78</sup>

Since 2016, the **beneficiaries of international protection** are obliged to participate in the international protection module and Estonian language courses of the adaptation programme. When a beneficiary of international protection has failed to perform this obligation without good reason, the payment of support may be connected to participating in the courses.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Lauren, Ave. Annual Policy Report on Migration and Asylum Estonia 2016. European Migration Network, 2017.

<sup>7</sup> Estonia / *Adaptation Programme*, regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I, 22 August 2014, 5).

<sup>8</sup> [Welcoming Programme](#), accessed 19 January 2018.

<sup>9</sup> Estonia / § 75(4<sup>b</sup>) of the Act on Granting International Protection to Aliens (amendment RT I, 06 April 2016, 1 – entry into force 01 May 2016).

The integration services (language courses, counselling) provided for **settled migrants** (who have lived in Estonia for more than 5 years) are also voluntary.

### 3. Initiatives targeted at specific non-national groups

There are no specific courses/initiatives targeted at vulnerable groups. These groups are targeted within the general adaptation programme. For instance, there is a specific module that is targeted to **children and young people** at the ages 3-15 (unaccompanied minors may also attend). The purpose of this training is to help children and young people accommodate to Estonian society through acquiring knowledge about the functioning of the state and the society, about Estonian daily life, studies and cultural environment. There is also a special module targeted specifically to **beneficiaries of international protection**. The objective of this module is to assist the beneficiaries of international protection in their successful adaption in the Estonian society through thorough acquisition of facts and contacts concerning the operation of the state and society, organisation of everyday life, culture and working environment, etc.<sup>10</sup>

Additionally, individuals who are not able to get along due to their health or disability may participate in their chosen parts and volume of the adaptation programme.<sup>11</sup>

## III. Courses/modules' characteristics

The main characteristics (modules, length, location, language, main topics, cost, certificate) of the courses have been defined by the *regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I, 22 August 2014, 5)* and developed by the course providers. Since the course providers for the period of 2018-2020 have not yet been announced, the following chapters will describe the courses held in 2015-2017.<sup>12</sup>

The adaptation programme consists of:

- a basic module that provides primary information for settling in Estonia;
- 6 thematic modules – working and entrepreneurship, studying, research, family life, children and young people, and international protection;
- basic language training at A1 level.

The overview of characteristics of the modules focusing on social orientation (basic module and thematic modules) are presented in table 1. However, as there are some differences in each course, they are also described separately below. As the language training concentrates on primary level communication skills and thus is not considered as a social orientation course its characteristics will not be described.

Module	Length	Location	Language	Content	Cost	Exam	Certificate
Basic module	8 hours	Tallinn, Tartu, Narva	English, Russian	Topics defined by the regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I,	Free	No	Yes

<sup>10</sup> [Welcoming Programme](#), accessed 19 January 2018.

<sup>11</sup> Estonia / *Adaptation Programme*, regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I, 22 August 2014, 5).

<sup>12</sup> The following information on characteristics of the courses retrieved from: [Welcoming Programme](#), accessed 19 January 2018, and from Estonia / *Adaptation Programme*, regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I, 22 August 2014, 5).

Work and entrepreneurship	8 hours	Tallinn, Tartu	English, Russian	22 August 2014, 5) and developed by the course provider			
Studying	8 hours	Tallinn, Tartu, (Narva)	English, Russian				
Research	11 hours	Tallinn, Tartu, (Narva)	English, Russian				
Family life	8 hours	Tallinn, Tartu	English, Russian				
Children and young people	5 hours (3-8 years), 8 hours (9-15 years)	Tallinn, Tartu	English, Russian				
International protection	8 hours	Tallinn, Tartu	English, Russian, Arab, French				

#### Basic module

The length of the course is 8 hours course, usually taking place during one day from 9am to 5pm. The courses are held in 3 biggest towns of Estonia: Tallinn, Tartu and Narva. The courses are either in English or Russian language. The content and length of the course have been defined by the regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I, 22 August 2014, 5) and developed by the course provider, covering the most important topics that every foreigner arriving in Estonia could benefit from knowing in order to cope successfully in Estonia. The course and its materials are free for all participants as the state pays for it directly to the course provider. The participants are offered coffee, tea and snacks during the training day. There is no exam at the end of the course. Upon completion of the training, each participant will receive a digital or, upon request, a hard copy certificate confirming that he/she has completed the training. The course provider is also obliged to immediately notify the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board.

#### Work and entrepreneurship module

The length of the course is 8 hours course, usually taking place during one day from 9am to 5pm. The courses are held in 2 biggest towns of Estonia: Tallinn and Tartu. The courses are either in English or Russian language. The content and length of the course have been defined by the regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I, 22 August 2014, 5) and developed by the course provider, covering the most important topics that everyone coming to work in Estonia, wishing to find a suitable job or do business there could benefit from knowing in order to cope successfully. The course and its materials are free for all participants as the state pays for it directly to the course provider. The participants are offered coffee, tea and snacks during the training day. There is no exam at the end of the course. Upon completion of the training, each participant will receive a digital or, upon request, a hard copy certificate confirming that he/she has completed the training. The course provider is also obliged to immediately notify the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board.

#### Studying module

The length of the course is 8 hours, usually taking place during one day from 9am to 5pm. The courses are held in 2 biggest towns of Estonia: Tallinn and Tartu. If needed, the courses are also held in Narva. The courses are either in English or Russian language. The content and length of the course have been defined by the regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I, 22 August 2014, 5) and developed by the course provider, covering the most important topics that all foreign students or foreigners in general should be familiar with to successfully live in Estonia. The course and its materials are free for all participants as the state pays for it directly to the course provider. The participants are offered coffee, tea and snacks during the training day. There is no exam at the end of the course, but the day will end with a test that will help to consolidate the knowledge after the training. The test is only a self-evaluation tool – it does not assess the completion of the training. Upon completion of the training, each participant will receive a digital or, upon request, a hard copy certificate confirming that he/she has completed the training. The course provider is also obliged to immediately notify the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board.

#### Research module

The length of the course is one and a half days. The training days include 8 hours educational and up to 3 hours of interactive activities. Participation in both days is obligatory. The courses are held in 2 biggest towns of Estonia: Tallinn and Tartu. If needed, the courses are also held in Narva. The courses are either in English or Russian language. The content and length of the course have been defined by the regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I, 22 August 2014, 5) and developed by the course provider, covering all necessary topics that are useful to know for all new arrivals who have migrated to Estonia in order to engage in research or want to do so. The course and its materials are free for all participants as the state pays for it directly to the course provider. The participants are offered coffee, tea and snacks during the training day. There is no exam at the end of the course, but participants may perform an on-line test that will help to consolidate the knowledge after the training. The test is only a self-evaluation tool – it does not assess the completion of the training. Upon completion of the training, each participant will receive a digital or, upon request, a hard copy certificate confirming that he/she has completed the training. The course provider is also obliged to immediately notify the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board.

#### Family life module

The length of the course is 8 hours, usually taking place during one day from 9am to 5pm. The courses are held in 2 biggest towns of Estonia: Tallinn and Tartu. The courses are either in English or Russian language. The content and length of the course have been defined by the regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I, 22 August 2014, 5) and developed by the course provider, covering the most important topics that people having come to Estonia for family reasons, having taken along their children or wishing to know more about the opportunities of self-development and recreation in Estonia could benefit from knowing in order to cope successfully in Estonia. The course and its materials are free for all participants as the state pays for it directly to the course provider. The participants are offered coffee, tea and snacks during the training day. There is no exam at the end of the course. Upon completion of the training, each participant will receive a digital or, upon request, a hard copy certificate confirming that he/she has completed the training. The course provider is also obliged to immediately notify the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board.

#### Children and young people module

The course is divided into 4 age groups. The length of training for children of 3-5 and 6-8 years is for 5 hours (1 day), usually taking place from 9am to 2 pm. The length of training for young people of 9-12 years and 13-15 years is for 8 hours (1 day), usually taking place from 9am to 5pm. The courses are held in 2 biggest towns of Estonia: Tallinn and Tartu. The courses are either in English or Russian language. The content and length of the course have been defined by the regulation of Minister of the Interior (RT I, 22 August 2014, 5) and developed by the course provider, covering the main topics that children and young people arriving in Estonia could benefit from knowing in order to accommodate to Estonian society. The course and its materials are free for all participants as the state pays for it directly to the course

provider. The participants are offered juice and snacks, for the young people aged 9-15 also lunch during the training day. There is no exam at the end of the course. After the training day, the trainers will prepare a summary for the parents and feedback will be provided about the topics discussed and the activities performed during the training day. Upon completion of the training, each participant will receive a digital or, upon request, a hard copy certificate confirming that he/she has completed the training. The course provider is also obliged to immediately notify the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board.

## IV. Content of courses

### 1. Aims of the courses

The basic module is aimed at all new arrivals with a purpose to provide primary knowledge about the core values and functioning principles, rights and obligations of residents, daily life and cultural environment of the state of Estonia. The module also explains the main features of Estonian culture and the Estonian character, and many other topics that support quick and smooth adaptation.

The work and entrepreneurship module is aimed primarily at foreigners who have migrated to Estonia to work or engage in business, but also to foreign students who will be completing their education in Estonia. The purpose of the module is to give an overview of topics related to working, starting or becoming involved in business in Estonia.

The studying module is aimed primarily at foreign students who have moved to Estonia in order to study. The purpose of the module is to provide an overview of the rights and obligations of foreigners who have moved here by way of learning mobility; the studying culture in Estonia; traineeship and work opportunities; institutions of higher education, student and academic networks and organisations etc.

The research module is aimed primarily at foreign researchers and students who have moved to Estonia by way of research mobility with the purpose is to give a thorough overview of research activities and research institutes in Estonia; the rights and obligations of foreigners who have migrated to Estonia by way of research mobility; various academic networks and organisations; research funding etc.

The family life module is aimed primarily at foreigners who have migrated to Estonia as family members with the purpose is to give an overview of the Estonian education system; social welfare and labour market services; various benefits and allowances; leisure opportunities in Estonia etc.

The children and young people module is aimed at new arrivals children and young people aged 3-15 with the purpose to give children and young people primary knowledge about Estonia in a playful and interactive manner that is appropriate to their age. The module places a lot of emphasis on playful learning, and combines various activities and topics. Supporting the socialisation process of children by guaranteeing them a mentally and physically secure environment and the opportunity to communicate with their peers is also important.

The international protection module is aimed at persons who have been granted international protection in Estonia with the purpose to give an overview of Estonian society and culture, the rights and obligations of the beneficiary of international protection etc.<sup>13</sup>

## 2. Themes covered

Within the basic module the following topics are discussed, among others:

- The legal status of foreigners in Estonia;
- The fundamentals of the functioning of Estonian state;
- The fundamental values of Estonian society;
- The most important authorities and their duties;
- The opportunities for active participation in civil society;
- The opportunities to get help in an emergency;
- The various uses of digital identity documents;
- The various uses of e-services;
- Performing bank transactions;
- The opportunities to have your certified education acknowledged;
- The fundamentals of Estonian health care system;
- Transport, traffic and participation in it;
- An overview of Estonian conversation customs;
- Opportunities for recreation in Estonia;
- An overview of services offered for foreigners.

Within the work and entrepreneurship module the following topics are discussed, among others:

- The legal bases for living in Estonia;
- How to find a suitable job and where to get help with that;
- Labour mobility within the European Union;
- The labour law, the employee's rights and duties in an employment relationship;
- The structure of Estonian tax system;
- The fundamentals of unemployment insurance and health insurance;
- Estonian work culture;
- The structure of Estonian pension system;
- Opportunities for in-service training;
- Opportunities for starting a business;
- The associations of entrepreneurs and top-level specialists in Estonia;
- Work-related and business-related services for foreigners.

Within the studying module the following topics are discussed, among others:

- Residence permit and its renewal;
- Estonian education system;
- Organisation of higher education and research;
- Study culture;
- Support services;

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<sup>13</sup> [Welcoming Programme](#), accessed 19 January 2018.

- Libraries;
- Student organisations;
- Internship and working opportunities.

Within the research module a thorough overview of the following topics is provided:

- Estonian research institutions and their functions;
- Various academic networks and organisations;
- Research funding schemes in Estonia;
- Teaching practices applied at Estonian universities, etc.
- All necessary legal information on the right of residence and requirements for granting or acquiring and extending residence permits for research migration.

Within the family life module the following topics are discussed, among the rest:

- The legal bases for living in Estonia;
- The system of family benefits in Estonia;
- Children-related information and services;
- How to register your child for a school or a kindergarten;
- Parental benefit and parental leave;
- Opportunities for recreation;
- Estonian pension system;
- Estonian education system;
- The rights and duties of children and parents;
- Social services and allowances in Estonia;
- Labour market services and employment mediation portals;
- In-service training opportunities;
- Family-related services for foreigners.

Within the children and young people module the following topics are discussed, among the rest:

- Estonia's history, geography, nature;
- The traditions and customs of Estonians;
- The specifics of Estonian culture;
- Estonian learning culture;
- The recreational habits and opportunities of Estonian children and young people;
- The involvement of young people in the society;
- The rights of children;
- The possibilities to get help in an emergency;
- Legal prohibitions and restrictions for children and young people.

The international protection module focuses on the following topics:

- General facts about the state of Estonia;
- Legal information related to the type of migration, including the conditions for issuing and extending a residence permit;
- Social welfare – what is the social welfare system like in Estonia, and what kind of support is given by the state and the local government;
- Education – access to education and opportunities for continuing education;

- Work culture and working in Estonia;
- Financial literacy;
- Place of residence and rules of cohabitation;

Support services for the beneficiaries of international protection in Estonia etc.<sup>14</sup>

### 3. Teaching methods

The teaching methods for the modules differ a little. Therefore, a detailed description of teaching methods of each of the module will be given below.

#### Basic module

The training day is structured on the basis of the specifics of adult learning. The classes have a very practical nature, a significant part of them consisting of single and group exercises as well as discussions.

For example, the topic of the main characteristics of Estonians' behaviour deals with various cultural dimensions and specifics of Estonian culture through practical exercises. Under the topic of adaptation to Estonian culture, the notion of cultural shock and the methods to successfully cope with it are discussed.

In the course of the practical exercises, participants will have the opportunity to highlight their own experiences of what has proven useful for them in adapting to Estonian culture, and to share these experiences with other participants.

In summary, the training day will provide participants with ample opportunities to immediately apply their new knowledge in practice, to ask questions and to get answers to them. Participants will be in constant discussion with both the trainers and other participants throughout the training and they will have the opportunity to exchange experiences with other aliens and to hear what situations others have encountered and how they have solved any issues.

#### Work and entrepreneurship module

The training day is structured on the basis of the specifics of adult learning. The classes have a very practical nature, a significant part of them consisting of single and group exercises as well as discussions.

For example, the topic of Estonian work culture includes the model of cultural differences, discussed through a practical exercise. In the course of that exercise, participants can assess how much Estonian work culture differs from their own work culture and what specifics they should keep in mind when communicating with Estonians in order to accommodate better to Estonia.

After the training, participants are able to take part in an event arranged by some work-related or business-related organisation, if they wish.

In summary, the training day will provide participants with ample opportunities to immediately apply their new knowledge in practice, to ask questions and to get answers to their questions. Participants will be in constant discussion with both the trainers and other participants throughout the training and they will have the opportunity to exchange experiences with other recently arrived foreigners and to hear what situations others have encountered and how they have solved any issues.

#### Studying module

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<sup>14</sup> [Welcoming Programme](#), accessed 19 January 2018.

The training day is structured on the basis of the specifics of adult learning. The training is in form of highly practical lectures that consist of solo and group exercises and discussions. The training day will present participants with many opportunities to immediately utilise their acquired knowledge, to ask questions and get answers. The training emphasises adjustment support and provision of information.

#### Research module

The training includes educational (practical tasks, group work, discussions) and interactive activities, e.g. a tour of a research institution or meeting with an Estonian researcher. During the training, participants are encouraged to ask questions and share their experiences with other participants and instructors.

At the end of the training session participants are given a detailed handbook on the topics discussed in the module.

#### Family life module

The training day is structured on the basis of the specifics of adult learning. The classes have a very practical nature, a significant part of them consisting of single and group exercises as well as discussions.

In the course of the training, practical exercises will enable participants to share their own experiences and get to know those of others. This provides a good opportunity to get to know other foreigners moving to Estonia and to find common interests.

After the training, participants will be able to take part in a joint event of interest and/or a city tour together, if you so wish. In summary, the training day will provide participants with ample opportunities to immediately apply their new knowledge in practice, to ask questions and to get answers to them. They will be in constant discussion with both the trainers and other participants throughout the training and will have the opportunity to exchange experiences with other recently arrived foreigners and to hear what situations others have encountered and how they have solved any issues.

#### Children and young people module

**There are 4 age groups in this module and the teaching methods differ depending on the age group.**

- **Children of 3-5 years and 6-8 years**

The methods aim at learning through playing and supporting socialisation processes of the children. A psychologically and physically secure environment is established for the activities, supporting the children's communication with others of their age as well as the discussion of new topics.

Various topical movement, singing and table top games are used as training methods. Also, simpler situations from real life that children may encounter in Estonia are acted through (e.g. attending kindergarten, calling emergency services, etc.).

Various domains are integrated when conducting the activities, for example language, mathematics, natural sciences, music, movement, hand-eye co-ordination activities, through which the trainers introduce Estonian culture, nature, symbols, history, geography and folk heritage. The activities are performed in groups and smaller subgroups, supporting the children's communication with each other and their co-operative learning. Also, the opportunities of age-appropriate information technology means are used.

- **Young people of 9-12 years and 13-15 years**

In training young people of that age, attention is paid to relating and comparing their earlier experiences with Estonian context when discussing the topics. The young people are directed to communicate with each other as much as possible, and also encouraged to establish connections to Estonian culture and environment through introducing their earlier experiences. Digital technology and the young people's own smart devices are

used if possible, as those help introduce the possibilities of Estonia as an e-country and provide information about the opportunities and services created for young people in Estonia.

The training methods used are content discussions to introduce the young people and their experiences and to connect those to Estonia, as well as exercises in groups and pairs. Most of the activities are performed in small groups, supporting the young people in getting to know, converse with and accept each other.

The young people are given various tasks that can be solved by using the skills they learned and searching for information from the sources provided to them, incl. by their own smart devices. Various activeness-enhancing games are also used in order to support the young people's activity and to create an environment supportive of learning, for example table top, movement, folk and singing games related to Estonia.

This integrative and activity-based way of learning makes the young people's learning experience fruitful and exciting.

#### International protection module

The training day is arranged, keeping in mind the characteristics of both adult learning, as well as the needs of beneficiaries of international protection. The training has a very practical and communication-based nature: a major part of the training consists of exercises, group work and discussions. The training day gives numerous opportunities to immediately apply the knowledge obtained in practice, ask questions, and get answers. The training focuses on adaptation support, giving relevant information and creating a support network that helps to adapt.<sup>15</sup>

## 4. Participation of host society in the courses

The involvement of host society in the courses is rare. There are some instances, however, that may include interactions with the host society. For example, after completion of the work and entrepreneurship module participants will be able to take part in an event arranged by some work-related or business-related organisation. Additionally, during the research module a tour of a research institution or meeting with an Estonian researcher is arranged.<sup>16</sup>

## List of References

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