



#### **FOREWORD**

The current regional events have led to migrants becoming more vulnerable; it has had a profound impact on a global scale, taking us into a difficult period regarding migration.

Migration is often perceived as a one-way journey, starting from one's home to a new country of destination. However, the reality can be more complex. For some, the need to return home might arise at some point. This can be triggered by various motives, like the desire to reunite with their families; changing conditions in the host country, or in the country of origin; a lack of legal status; or labor opportunities. Over the last couple of years, the majority of those who have arrived in Europe have left their homes due to conflicts and/or poor economic situations, cumulated with the lack of opportunities. Conflicts do not differentiate between rich and poor, between women and men or between adults and children.

Romania is learning how to become a country able to welcome migrants. Now, Romania is confronted with a deep workforce crisis; amidst low unemployment rates and the private sector indicating a labor shortage. Migration, like in other states, represents one of the ways to re-establish a balance. Romania needs well managed migration.

Local authorities should take on a more active role in this process, to create opportunities both for Romanian citizens who would like to return home, and for EU citizens or other third country nationals who would like to call Romania their HOME.

Migration comes with many diverse stories about fights, struggles, hopes, disappointments, accomplishments and successes.

These stories are worth hearing. They should be embraced and shared within our families and communities. They represent the first step towards understanding all facets of migration.

Mircea MOCANU

Head of Office

IOM Romania

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#### ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

Founded in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration. IOM collaborates with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners to:

- Provide assistance to address the increasing number of operational challenges of migration;
- Promote issues of migration;
- Encourage the social and economic development through migration;
- Ensure the wellbeing and the human rights of migrants.

The international community recognizes that more and more migrants, regardless of their status, are entitled to be assured that their human rights will be respected and protected.

Due to the mobility of humans, IOM continues to grow, with over 169 member states, and another 8 states holding observer status. The number of offices and missions has grown from 119 in 1998 to more than 400 in 2018.

The operational staff have increased in numbers, from approximately 1,100 persons in 1998 to over 10,000 in December 2018; with 97% of the members on the field.



# MIGRATION: one of the most important issues of the century

## 1 billion persons on the move\*

250 million international migrants

760 million internal migrants



#### **REGIONAL CONTEXT**

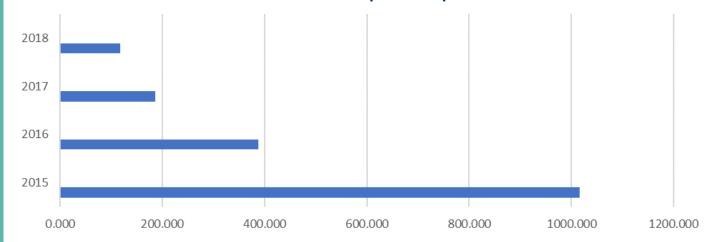
The Mediterranean route

#### **General presentation**

The number of migrants reaching Europe's territory is steadily decreasing. The chart shows that in 2018, Europe registered approximately 140,000 migrants. This marked a considerable decrease, compared to the record number of one-million plus registered arrivals of 2015.

Spain, Greece and Italy continue to remain the main countries of destination for migrants arriving in European territory, while the Arab Republic of Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq continue to represent the main countries of origin for those arriving in Europe.

#### The number of arrivals in Europe in the period 2015—2018



#### The Main Routes of Migration

The main migration route towards Europe continues to be crossing the Mediterranean Sea; with over 80% of migrants in 2018 taking this maritime route on their way to European territory.



2,297 persons lost their lives on the Mediteraneean in 2018

The Western Mediteraneean route became the most used route to Europe



Over 3,500 unaccompanied minors arrived on the shores of Italy in 2018

The most arrivals on Europe's territory were registered in Spain

#### **REGIONAL CONTEXT**

THE FIRST HOST COUNTRY

#### **The Mediterranean Route**



1,011,712

363,401

165,409

117,360



34,887

24,338

10,550

26,806

	Source: Migration Flows on the Mediterranean Route, De-
cember 2018	he Mediterranean Route, De-

#### The first host country

In 2018, **Spain** registered over 65,000 arrivals, a figure that more than doubled 2017's arrivals.

Statistics show that the majority of arrivals on Spanish territory, in 2018, used the maritime route, reaching land on the Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla, on the Northern Coast of Africa.

The Mediterranean route remains the most dangerous, with over 2,000 missing or dead persons in 2018 alone. The majority of persons arriving in Spain came from the African Sub-Samarian territories and from Morocco.

The Greek authorities reported that over 50,000 migrants reached the shores of **Greece** in 2018, placing the country in second position among the first three host countries.

However, the number of arrivals in Greece continues to decrease in comparison with previous years. In regard to the origin of the migrants, the vast majority came from Afghanistan, Iraq and the Arab Republic of Syria.

Despite the decreasing tendency, the number of arrivals on land in 2018 outnumbers the figures registered in 2015 and 2016; with the vast majority of migrants reaching the Greek territory in the second trimester of the year.

Although **Italy** is still among the first three host countries for migrants in 2018, the total numbers continue to decrease compared with previous years. Statistics show that Tunisia is the main country of origin for migrants reaching the shores of Italy, followed closely by Eritrea, Iraq, Sudan and Pakistan.

2015

2016

2017

2018

Although, in previous years, Libya was one of the main countries of origin, from 2017 to 2018 the numbers dropped by 88%. Despite the vast number of cases of migrants that enter into Italy near the border town of Trieste or Gorizia, the border authorities do not offer any official estimation in regard to the land routes of irregular migration.

#### **REGIONAL CONTEXT**

TRANSIT COUNTRIES

Throughout 2018, **Croatia** registered over 8,000 arrivals, a number considerably lower than the 160,000 migrants and refugees registered in November 2015. The majority of those who arrived in Croatia came from Pakistan, Turkey and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

**Bulgaria** represents one of the main transit countries in Europe, with over 2,500 migrants registered in 2018. The majority were intercepted while trying to cross the border irregularly from Turkey or into Serbia from Bulgaria.

Compared with previous years, the registered figures continue to drop. Although the statistics show that there are still arrivals from Pakistan, Afghanistan and the Arab Republic of Syria, those originating from the latter are fewer and fewer.



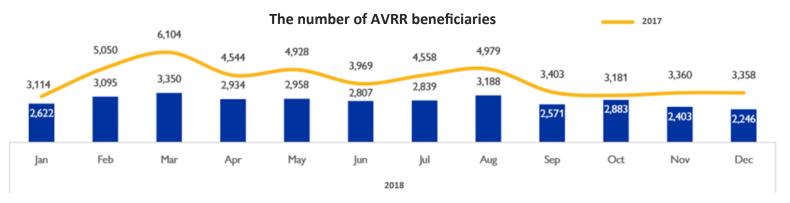




Source: Migration Flows on the Mediteraneean, December 2018

#### **Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR)**

Following the last years' events that resulted in an increase of migration flow, European countries launched the AVRR programme to support migrants requiring assistance to return safely into their country of origin. However, 2018 demonstrated a decrease in the number of beneficiaries of the AVRR program at European level.



Source: Assited Voluntary Return and Reintegration, Monthly Report, December 2018

### NATIONAL CONTEXT

120,000

Foreigners with legal status in Romania

4,000

Persons benefiting from a form of protection

Top 3: Iraq, Syria, Iran

2,100

Asylum requests. These were less than the figures registered in 2017, but have a multiannual growing tendency

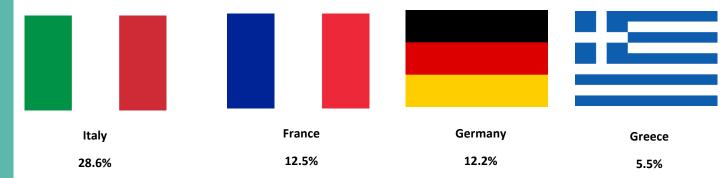
**120,000 foreigners with legal status** were registered at the end of 2018 (This was 4% more than those registered at the end of 2017)

58,000 foreigners were registered in Romania in 2009

Third country nationals: 70,000 (top 4: Republic of Moldova, Turkey, China, Syria), staying in the country as family members (35%), for studies (22%) or with permanent right to stay (17%).



EU/SEE/CH citizens: 50.000 (top 4: Italy, France, Germany, Greece), living in the country for labor (40%), means of support (27%) and studying (14%).





#### **INTERACT PLUS**

## Integrated services for migrants, social and intercultural dialogue

#### **PERIOD**

JULY 2017- JULY 2019

#### **PARTNERS**

AIDROM Bucharest Schottener Foundation Bucharest Global Help Craiova ARPCPS Braşov

#### **FINANCING**

Asylum, Migration and Integration Found (AMIF) through the General Inspectorate for Immigration, within the Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The integrated services provided as part of the INTERACT project (2016—2017) continued, from July 2017, as part of the INTERACT + project. The project continued to offer the original integrated services for information and counseling, however, included a greater focus on the capabilities of migrants, training for accessing the job market and the involvement of the communities.

The provision of complete services for information and counseling through a 'one-stop-shop' network in Bucharest,

Craiova and Brasov

#### The involvement of communities

through dialogue and direct interaction
between migrants and host communities,
through mentorship programs, and
volunteers involvement

Migrant empowerment and training for the labor market through active involvement in the private sector in Romania.

With the support of EDENRED and MASTERCARD, two personalized products were created for migrants: a card to serve for transferring material support, and social tickets for shopping.

With ARAMT, support opportunities were identified for migrants to be included on the labor market.

The growth in the number of beneficiaries interested in Romanian language courses, sociocultural activities and material assistance, medical assistance or legal assistance should be seen in the context of information campaigns launched as part of the previous project amongst the civic society, authorities and migrant communities. Moreover, information activities realised in the past, transformed IOM to become a more visible entity, reaching more migrants. On the other hand, migrants realised more and more that if they decide to make Romania their new home, they would benefit in integrating into Romanian society by learning the language and culture.

## **INTERACT PLUS**

Integrated services for migrants, social and intercultural dialogue

#### The main services offered to beneficiaries

Approximately 1,500 persons benefited from assistance through the Interact PLUS project.

Out of the beneficiaries of the Interact PLUS project, 56% of them benefited from the services offered by this project in Bucharest, 20% in Brasov, 20% in Craiova and 2% in Giurgiu.



## **INTERACT PLUS**

Integrated services for migrants, social and intercultural dialogue

Most beneficiaries came from Syria (34%), with 12% from Moldova, 9.5% from Iraq, 3.5% from Afghanistan, and 0.8% stateless.

Regarding the status of the assisted beneficiaries: 22% of them benefited from subsidiary protection, 24% held the status of refugee, 28% are in Romania for studies, 17% for reasons related to the family, and 4.5% are in Romania for work purposes.



54%



45%



National Day activity.

### **REACT\_RO**

## **Educational resources for social orientation**

#### **PERIOD**

July 2017—January 2019

#### **PARTNERS**

Intercultural Institute Timisoara
Schottener Foundation Bucuresti

#### **FINANCING**

Asylum, Migration and Integration Found (AMIF) through the General Inspectorate for Immigration, within the Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs.

**AVAILABLE RESOURCES** www.romaniaeacasa.ro

This project contributed to the development of a coherent package of educational resources for learning the Romanian language as a foreign language. It also assisted in orientating migrants into Romanian society, took into account the needs of the beneficiaries and worked as a form of protection for third country nationals in Romania.

The educational resource package included the realization of a curricular frame, of a Romanian language handbook for adults and children, developed on different levels of competencies (beginner level A1-A2.1, intermediary A2.2-B1.1 and advanced B1.2-B2.1, together with workbooks for Romanian language teachers and students and evaluation materials.



The project responded to the need for coherence and uniformity regarding available materials and the type of information presented.

Experts, foreign and from the Ministry of Education were involved in the creation of these materials.

Under the project, groups of trainers for learning the Romanian language and for cultural accommodation tested the resources for six-months.

#### **ADMIN4ALL**

## Supporting the active inclusion of disadvantaged migrants from Europe

#### **PERIOD**

March 2016—December 2017 (stage I) June 2018 – June 2020 (stage II)

#### **PARTNERS**

IOM Italy (coord.), IOM Austria, IOM Poland (stage I)
IOM Greece, IOM Spain, IOM Malta (stage II)

#### **FINANCING**

European Commission, General Direction for Internal Affairs, Asylum, Migration and Integration fund (FAMI)

#### **AVAILABLE RESOURCES**

www.admin4all.eu/

IOM Romania joined the collective efforts of other member states of the EU, in implementing a project aimed at consolidating the local authorities capacities to develop effective strategies for the successful integration of migrants.

The project was implemented in 14 municipalities from 4 member states of the EU (Italy, Austria, Poland and Romania) between 2016 and 2017. In Romania, Admin4All was implemented in Bucharest and Cluj-Napoca within the institutions working with migrants (both long term residents and refugees), especially the disadvantaged ones.

In the second phase the number of partner countries and municipalities was extended (including Athens, Madrid, Valetta). This phase also consolidated the capacity to provide services of those already involved in the program.

#### **STAGE II OBJECTIVES**

The consolidation of the manger's capabilities, and of the personnel in the field of social assistance that work directly with migrants and refugees

Promoting the inclusion and diversity, commitment and coordination of the project by facilitating greater cooperation between authorities at a local, regional and national level

Enhancing the exchange of experiences, the dissemination of good practices, and approaches in relation to social inclusion at an European level

#### LINK-IT

Connecting the pre and post relocation stages for facilitating the socioeconomic integration of refugees

**PERIOD** 

January 2018 — July 2019

#### **PARTNERS**

International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), British Refugee Council (RC), Asociatia Serviciul Iezuitilor Pentru Refugiatii Din Romania (JRS Romania), Caritasverband Fur Die Diozese Hildesheim E.V (Caritas Friedland) and Conselho Portugues Para Os Refugiados CPR (CPR).

#### **FINANCING**

European Commission, General Direction for Migration and Internal Affairs, Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)

#### **AVAILABLE RESOURCES**

www.admin4all.eu/

LINK IT is an innovative project aiming to assure better integration of Syrian refugees relocated from Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, in Germany, Portugal, Romania and the United Kingdom.

The project focuses on strengthening ties between the support for integration offered before departure, and after the integration of refugees.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

Organizing information sessions for the host communities.

Elaborating video materials to convey the relocation experience in different states.

Developing and piloting a pre relocation instrument which evaluates competencies and determines the profile of the relocated Syrian refugees.

#### **ACTIVITIES IN ROMANIA**

April 19: The opening of the project meeting, with the participants of all international partners

April 20: "Good practices in integrating migrants in the European Union" seminar

During the seminar, good practices were shared between representatives of 5 member states of the European Union (Germany, Portugal, United Kingdom, Belgium and Romania) regarding refugee and migrant access to the labor market of the refugees/migrants; and also, the process of integration in the society.



## EMERGENCY TRANSIT CENTER TIMISOARA

**PERIOD** 

2008 — present

#### **PARTNERS**

Romanian Government through the General Inspectorate for Immigrations

**UNHCR** Romania







Emergency Transit Center Timisoara represents one of the main contributions of IOM Romania in facilitating migration.

Operating under an agreement signed in 2008 between the Romanian Government, UNHCR and IOM, the center is projected to offer a safety net for up to 200 refugees a year, who are waiting to be relocated or transferred to other states.

Since 2008, almost 3,000 refugees were assisted and registered at the center.

3,000

In 2019, the number of beneficiaries of the Emergency Transit Center will reach 3000, with assistance from the Romanian Government, UNHCR and IOM, together with other public authorities, such as the Border Police.

#### 2018 in numbers:

- 193 refugees transited the center
- The main 3 countries where refugees were relocated were: Norway, Belgium and United Kingdom

#### The refugees assisted in the center in 2018 originated mainly from

- Eritrea
- Sudan
- Syria

#### **STARRT III**

Transfer and assistance for refugees relocated from Turkey or Jordan

#### **PERIOD**

January 2018 — July 2019

#### **PARTNERS**

Schottener Foundation Bucharest

#### **FINANCING**

Asylum, Migration and Integration Found (AMIF) through the General Inspectorate for Immigration, within the Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs.

#### **AVAILABLE RESOURCES**

Relocation has been one of the main activities of IOM since its creation in 1951.

Used mainly for assuring support for citizens displaced during World War II, this program offered basic assistance over the following six decades to refugees and vulnerable persons throughout the world.

In the time period 2007-2016, IOM organised and managed the relocation of over 1.13 million vulnerable persons from 186 locations throughout the world.

Every other 5 minutes, a person moves to another part of the world with IOM's help.

In 2017, IOM Romania implemented two projects financed by AMIF, STARRT I and STARRT II, through which 43 Syrian citizens were relocated in Romania and Turkey, in accordance with the national resettlement quota from 2015 and 2016/2017.

START III represents the continuation of these transfers, in conformity with Romania's engagements.

The 2019—2020 Objectives: Assuring the safe transfer of 109 Syrian refugees (69 from Turkey and 40 from Jordan), representing the relocation quota for Romania in the time period 2018—2019, from different localities from Turkey and Jordan, and up until the final destination in Romania, Bucharest and possibly in other localities in the country.

## MANAGING MIGRATION



#### **RVAR**

## ASSITED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAM 2017 –2020

#### **PERIOD**

April 2017 — April 2020

PARTNERS
JRS Romania

#### WITH SUPPORT FROM

General Inspectorate for Immigrations

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Embassies / Consulates of Third Countries in Romania

IOM missions from the host countries

#### **FINANCING**

Asylum, Migration and Integration Found (AMIF) through the General Inspectorate for Immigration, within the Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs.

#### **AVAILABLE RRESOURCES**

https://www.iom.int/assisted-voluntary-return-and-reintegration

Being one of the IOM main activities, AVRR offers assistance for migrants from outside the EU who choose to return home voluntarily. IOM Romania has supported migrants to return to their countries of origin for more than two decades. In 2017, with the support of the Romanian Government, a new agreement was signed for a new return program for 3 years.

In 2018, over 60,000 persons were assisted by IOM at global level to return home.

#### **AVRR offers assistance for:**

- Migrants whose asylum request was denied and those who were denied any form of protection;
- Migrants who decide to stop the process of obtaining a new form of protection or give up the form of protection they already have;
- Migrants who received or who are in a position to receive a final decision to leave the country.

#### The main categories of people assisted in 2018:

- •Young men with medium education.
- •Middle aged women with medium education, arrived in the country for work purposes.
- Families with one parent, with small and very small children.
- •Limited work experience and without qualifications in the majority of the cases.

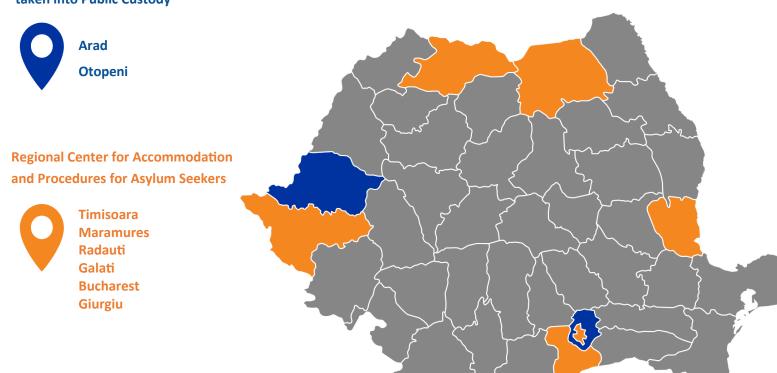
## **RVAR**

Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Program

**RESULTS** 

108
Beneficiaries

Accommodation Center for Foreigners taken into Public Custody



The program takes place in the centers marked on the map and at the IOM office in Bucharest.

#### Results 2018:

Out of the total 108 persons who benefited from this program, 71 were men and 37 were women.

The main countries of origin of the beneficiaries were: Iraq (41 persons), Philippines (19 persons), and Iran (8 persons).

#### **TANGO**

Tandem with NGO's for assisting victims of human trafficking

#### **PERIOD**

October 2017 — August 2019

#### **PARTNERS**

**ADPARE** Association

Micu Bogdan Foundation

People to People Foundation

#### **FINANCING**

Swiss-Romanian Cooperation Programme to Reduce Economic and Social Disparities within the Enlarged European Union.

#### **AVAILABLE RESOURCES**

http://www.oim.ro/attachments/article/617/brosura\_ro2.pdf

The project aims to provide direct assistance to 100 victims who have been trafficked internally and internationally. The approach is victim-focused, and includes targeted consolidation of the National Identification and Referral Mechanism of Victims of Trafficking in Persons (MNIR).

#### Results 2018:

• 5 victims of trafficking returned to Romania with IOM's help and were referred to our project of implementation for support for reintegration





#### **BEFORE RETURN**

- · risk and needs assessment
- travel documents
- police cooperation, protection and cooperation with authorities in Romania
- → safe travel to Romania

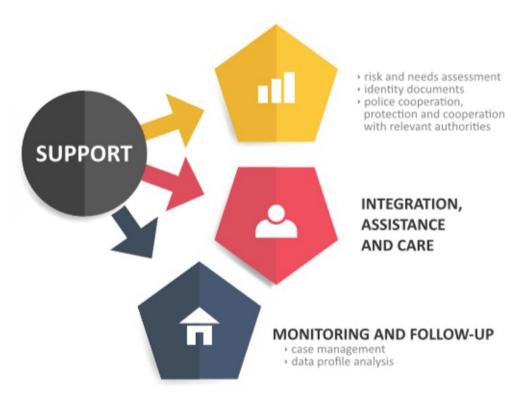
#### **UPON RETURN**

- reception
- · reintegration assistance

#### MONITORING AND FOLLOW-UP

- case management
- data profile analysis

## What does a complete approach to assistance mean?



## What does a complete approach to assistance mean?

#### HEALTH

- ▶ Health assessment
- ▶ Treatment

## PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT

- psychological counselling
- pshycological therapy
- emotional support

#### **ACCOMMODATION**

- ▶ Shelter
- Housing (rent and utilities)
- Improvement of living conditions (furniture, repairs)

#### **EDUCATION**

- ▶ Tuition fees
- Educational materials
- Non-formal and informal education

## PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

- Job placement
- Vocational training
- Microbusiness set-up

#### **EMPOWERMENT**

- Development of independent life abilities
- ▶ Budget and house management
- ▶ Self-protection

#### **FAMILY AND SOCIAL SUPPORT**

- ▶ Child care
- social counselling and mediation
- Family income-generating support
- Building community support

#### **MATERIAL ASSISTANCE**

- ▶ Food and clothing
- Personal care supplies

#### **LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

- Juridical counselling and representation in criminal and/or civil trials
- Support for civil redress/ applying for compensations

## Assistance for Romanian citizens, victims of trafficking in persons

23
beneficiaries



Romania is among the top 5 countries of origin for victims of trafficking in persons in the European Union. \*

IOM assists Romanian victims of trafficking through its referral systems from countries of the European Union and European Economic Space.

The victims benefit from assistance in cases of return, and IOM covers the costs of transportation, medical evaluation and medical services for escorts, depending on the requirements of individual cases.

Once returned to Romania, the victims benefit from an assistance grant for reintegration, and receive support from NGOs specialised in providing assistance to victims of human trafficking.









#### 2018 in numbers

 23 victims of human trafficking were included in the assistance programs in their communities from their countries of origin through the help of different implementation partners

<sup>\*</sup>https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-security/20181204\_data-collection-study.pdf

## SUPPORT FOR ROMANIAN CITIZENS



## **Medical Processing**

Self – payers program

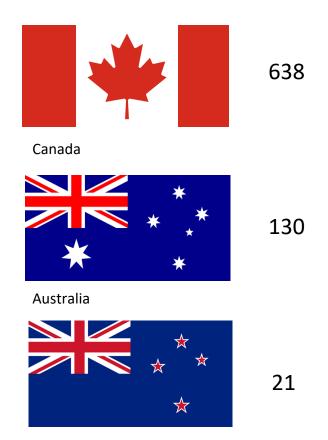
IOM Romania has been involved in providing evaluation services of migrants health for almost two decades. As part of the Global Evaluation of Health Program, we assist with visa applications for countries like Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

We evaluate the physical and psychological state of the applicants before they start the journey to their country of destination. The medical needs of our applicants are central in our services, identifying and approaching any health related problem that might present a risk to the application or for public health during travel and/or arrival at the final destination.





49.5%



New Zealand

#### **CONSULAR SERVICES**

The Visa Center for Canada

IOM Romania hosts the Canadian Visa Applications Center (CVAC), an exclusive service provider for the Canadian Government. CVAC processes requests for online visa applications from persons located all around the country, and manages visa requests for the purpose of emigration, work or study.

CVAC provides general information, assistance for visa processing and assistance for travel documents for:

**Romanian citizens** 

EU citizens with residence in Romania

Citizens from outside the EU, including those who hold Canadian residence, who reside in Romania

467 requests



Work permit

9%



Travel

4%



Travel documents

17%



Sending passports, following an online request

35 %



Study permit

6%



#### **EVENTS**

In 2018 IOM Romania continued its efforts in promoting the principles of the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF). In the future, by developing projects that reflect the values promoted in this framework and are in conformity with these principles, such efforts will continue.

The participation of the IOM team at diverse events, is the first part of the mission aiming to promote a balanced vision on migration, especially through presenting stories and results of the implemented projects in the office framework.

**Embassy Festival** 

'Portraits of Migration' Exposition

Calligraphy Hour

**Cultural Diversity Forum** 

Global Migration Film Festival

**UN Summer School** 

The Romanian Diplomatic Institute

Multicultural Festival in Brasov

**OM Fest** 

Multicultural Festival Craiova



'Portraits of Migration' Exposition at the International Visual Art Festival – Constanta county

## **DEVELOPING STRONG PARTNERSHIPS**

#### **INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**









#### **PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS**







#### **PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS**







Ministry of Internal Affairs



National Agency Against Human Trafficking



Ministry of Foreign Affairs



General Inspectorate for Immigration

#### NON-PROFIT SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

















Filantropia



Fundatia Filantropia Timisoara





## **NEXT STEPS AND CHALLENGES FOR 2019**

2018 was the year when the Global Pact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration was adopted. This pact will consolidate IOM's efforts in managing migration, will engage member states in approaching international migration and will enhance international cooperation in terms of migration and human mobility. In this context, IOM Romania will continue its partnerships with a number of new national actors in the field of facilitating migration, transferring and managing emergency migration, post crisis migration and the regulation of migration; fields in which IOM possesses a long history of expertise and places the rights and needs of migrants at the center of its activity.

In accordance with the Migration Governance Framework of IOM, which guides activities that: contribute to the socio-economic wellbeing of migrants and society, respond appropriately to components of mobility in crisis and ensures that the migration process takes place in a dignified, safe and orderly manner, IOM Romania's strategies for 2019 are as follows:

- to maintain and to create new partnerships within the academic sector, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and with local authorities to highlight expertise, including the Global Pact for Migration, whilst also looking to become further involved in offering assistance for migrants in the most practical and efficient way
- Improving the management of data and expertise accumulated, and the way in which these are communicated and utilized to the benefit of other interested parties (The General Inspectorate for Immigration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labor, students), etc.

IOM Romania makes great efforts to ensure that migrants take on an active role in the communities where they are living. Further integration activities for refugees and migrants will take place in Romania through extended partnerships with the non-governmental sector, as well as local and national authorities. IOM Romania will continue to seek new partnerships in the private sector, and in doing so, will aim to increase the active involvement of migrants in the labor market to facilitate further integration into Romanian society.

IOM Romania will also continue, to invest in its team's expertise and experiences, in order to enhance its capabilities to react to changing needs.

Continuing this way of working, the IOM office in Romania will cooperate directly with state institutions and authorities, drawing upon accumulated expertise, experience and support to manage migration.

2019 will be an important year both at an international and European level, for the main Romanian institutions, with Romanian taking over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in the first semester of the year. Migration is a theme that will receive increased attention within the EU framework, while the discussions and decisions made in the first six months of 2019 will contribute to shaping the future of the European project and the way migration will be managed.





