

What does it mean to be a migrant in Lithuania: reality and challenges?

The complexity of migrants' needs is influenced by their immigration status, cultural and linguistic backgrounds, limited access to general publicly-funded services, the lack of support networks, racism and xenophobia, high thresholds for accessing integration services and long and complex procedures for providing it. Providing integration support to survivors require gender-specific approaches and methodologies, specific knowledge of men's violence against women and intersectoral expertise.

Health care and psychological support, among many other aspects of support, are crucial in providing assistance to trafficked migrant women. This assistance can only be effective if it is culturally and linguistically appropriate and is provided in conjunction with services to ensure the economic, social and legal security of the victims, taking into account the needs of women victims who are mothers.

The aim of the event is to discuss the challenges faced by migrants in Lithuania and the experience of professionals working in this field.

Date: November 28th, 2022

Time: 10:00 – 14:00 GMT+2

Place: AULA MAGNA Conference hall, PC "Studlendas", H. Manto g. 90-2, Klaipėda

The debate will be streamed remotely (ZOOM), Simultaneous translation Lithuanian - English, English - Lithuanian. ZOOM link will be provided to those who signed to attend the event via email.

Please fill in the registration form up to 25 November : <https://forms.office.com/r/ijr760JkEu>

The event has limited number of places.

AGENDA

The event will be moderated by lawyer Rugilė Butkevičiūtė, Women's Information Centre

10.00 - 10.20 Registration, welcome coffee

10.20 - 10.45 Opening of the event

Prof. Elvyra Acienė, Klaipėda University, Klaipėda University, Professor Emerita

Birutė Sabatauskaitė, Equal Opportunities Ombudsperson of the Republic of Lithuania

Eglė Puidokaitė, Klaipėda Social and Psychological Support Centre, Coalesce project coordinator

10.45 - 11.00 Birutė Sabatauskaitė, *Vulnerability, acceptance and societal attitudes of different groups*, Office of the Equal Opportunities Ombudsperson

11.00 - 11.15 Dr. Giedrė Blažytė, *Migrant women in Lithuania: integration experiences and challenges*, Diversity Development Group, Lithuania

11.15 - 11.30 Parisa Sabbaghi Renani, *Challenges of de facto integration due to cultural differences*, Iran

11.30 - 11.45 Kristina Mišinienė, *Challenges in assisting Congolese and Nigerian victims of sexual abuse*, Centre for Combating Trafficking and Exploitation

11.45 - 12.00 Dr. Dalia Puidokienė, *Gender-Specific Integration Model (GeSIM)*, Klaipėda Social and Psychological Support Centre

12.00 - 12.30 Coffee break

12.30 - 12.45 Dr. Irina Greyčienė, *Psychological peculiarities of third-country nationals arriving in Lithuania*. Lithuanian Red Cross

12.45 - 13.00 Garri Vahanyan, *Relocation to Lithuania: what to keep in mind and what to be grateful for*. Armenia

13.00 - 13.15 Dr. Jennifer Okeke, *Spirituality and Religion from a Women's Perspective: Uncovering African Traditional Religion*, Immigrant Council of Ireland (ICI), Ireland

13.15 - 13.30 Adriana S. Thiago, *Trafficking of Migrant Women in Europe*, European Network of Migrant Women (ENoMW), Belgium

13.30 - 14.00 Closing of the event