

# **National Conference of the European Migration Network**

23 March 2017, Bratislava

## **Refugee Integration in Practice by the example of the City of Nuremberg, Germany**

Coordination Group for Integration  
Department for Culture and Leisure  
**City of Nuremberg**

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# OUTLINE

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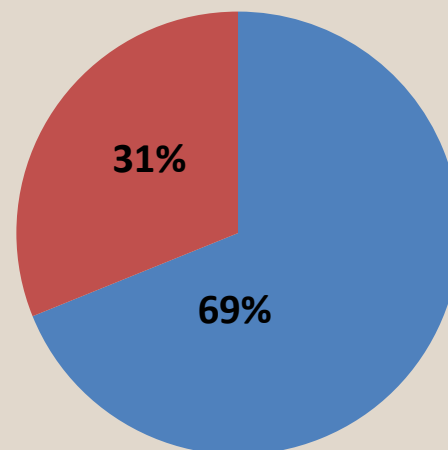
# 1. Structural Data of Nuremberg

- Total population: 526 920 (31/12/15)
  - > steadily increasing
- 2015 Migration of foreigners to Nuremberg 26 000
  - Net growth: 10 000
- People with a migration background: 230 765
  - **43,8%** (31/12/15)



Photo: City of Nuremberg

**Migration to Nuremberg 2015**  
(Office for Statistics)

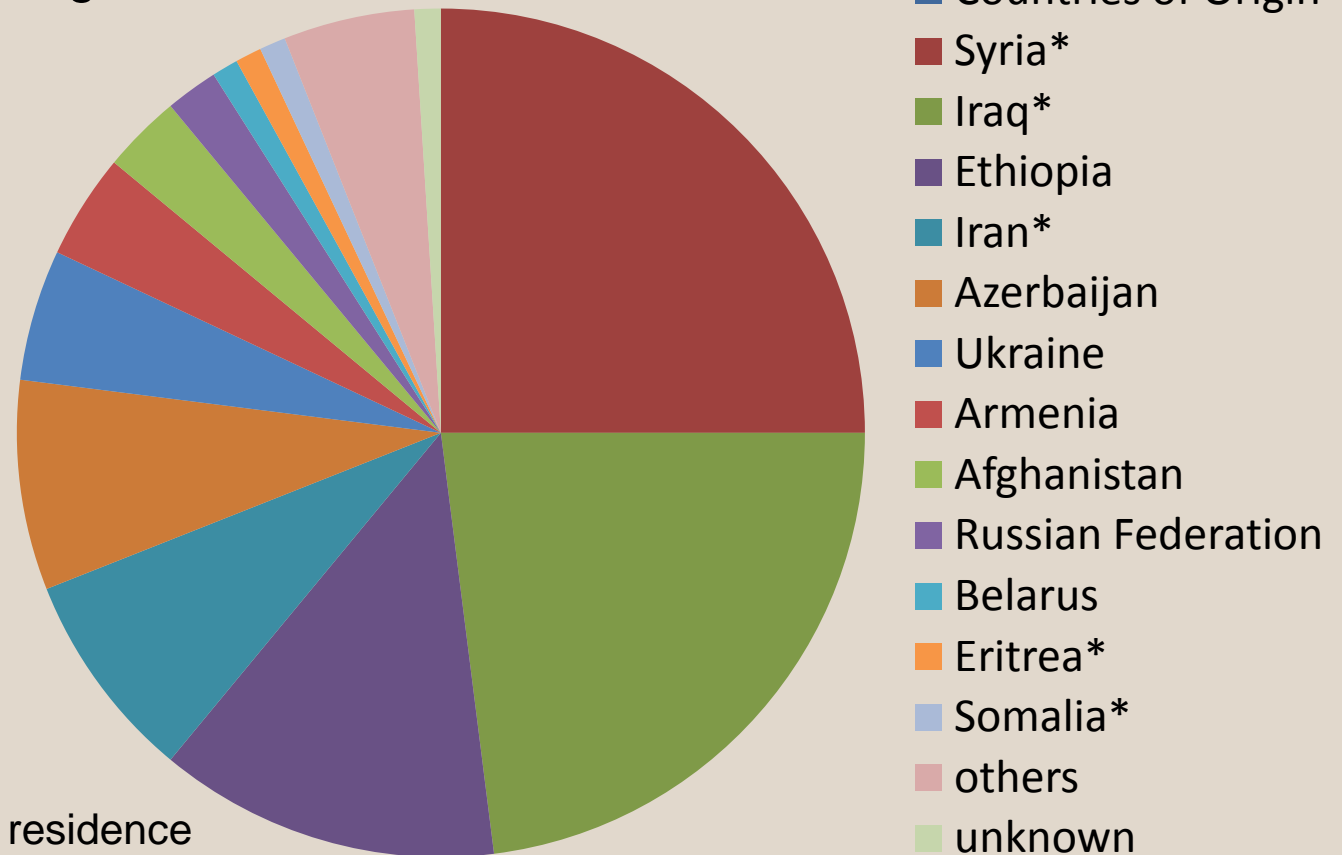


- Europe
- Other Countries

## ▪ Refugees in Nuremberg

- ✓ Influx 2015: 7,700 persons registered as asylum seekers or refugees
- ✓ Today: **8.264 Total**, among them 2368 unaccompanied minors (31/01/17)

Countries of Origin



\* Good prospects of permanent residence

## 2. Integration Policy of the City

### 2.1 Structure and values

Lord Mayor, Dr. Ulrich Maly (2002):

*"It is not a matter of course that people live together without friction. This is a value worth fighting for every day. We will increase our efforts in striving for integration and for the acceptance of cultural diversity."*

- Nuremberg has a long history of integration efforts and inter-cultural work
- Integration is a **cross-sectional issue**, to be included gradually into the regulatory systems and services
- **15 guidelines** stating the mission and vision of the integration policy, serve as a foundation for the communal work since 2004

## 2.2 Bodies

- **Coordination Group for Integration:** transdivisional and collective
- **Committee for Integration :** representatives from all political party groups, members of the Foreign Citizens' Advisory Council, the Repatriates' Advisory Council and some experts.
- **Council for Integration and Migration** representation for migrants
  - ✓ **Refugee Integration:** managed as a project led by the **mayor's office** in regular consultation with the cross sectional committees (decision) and the coordination group for integration (preparation / consultation)

## 3. Criteria for Admission and Integration

### 3.1 Preparation for admission

- swift response to immediate refugee influx
- **But:** Long term efforts /measures beforehand to create a intercultural tolerant urban society

### 3.2 Criteria for allocation

- Federal Law: „**Koenigstein Quota System**“: proportional distribution across German regions according to tax revenues and total population

### 3.3 Criteria for Integration

- **Long term perspective of residence** / good chances of being recognized as a refugee depending on country of origin may influence integration measures (e.g. German and Integration Courses)



## 4. Integration Measures

### 4.1 Language acquisition and orientation

- “Integration Courses” including German and Orientation Classes managed by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees
- German courses mainly covered by volunteers
- “INTEGREAT” App in progress: multilingual offline App providing all relevant information adjusted to the needs of the target group



Photo: Christine Dierenbach / City of Nuremberg

## 4.2 Housing

- 196 Total shared accommodations (for 7 437 people) all over the city
  - 88,8% municipal shared living quarters
  - At times additionally ten major municipal emergency shared accommodation centers (each offering about 400 spaces)
- Medium and long-term integration as a huge challenge due to a overall growing city population
  - Great demand for affordable housing not satisfied
    - ✓ Aiming to speed up the building of subsidized houses for all groups of the population
    - ✓ Committed joint action by government (federal, state, local) with civil society (volunteers, charities, associations and initiatives) and the economy

## 4.4 Education



Photo: City of Nuremberg

- Early acquisition of the German language is key
- Children are required to attend school (compulsory education)
  - partially separate “integration classes” provided
- Joint integration efforts of Chamber of Crafts, Chamber of Industry and Commerce and employment agencies
  - Integration Classes in vocational schools
- Access to cultural educational programmes (e.g. library card to visiting museums, youth facilities to being members of sports clubs)

## 4.5 Employment

- Integrating refugees into the labor market is one of the most important elements of successful social integration.
  - programs and offers in particular to ease the way into training and work for young refugees and to support firms when employing refugees and asylum seekers.
  - E.g. “**Stay**” **project** offers counseling and support for the job search
  - Intercultural trainings for educators and HR managers

## 4.6 Social services and health care provision

- Basic social services are made available to asylum seekers and refugees
- Video interpreting system for hospitals
- Establishment of a “Trauma Centre“

## 4.7 Socio-cultural orientation

- Project „Culture Guides“: Volunteers accompany refugees to cultural events
- Projects and facilities to support cultural and artistic activities by refugees and migrants (E.g. „Global Art “, „House of Resources“ )



Photo: City of Nuremberg

## 4.8 Working with the local community

- Long tradition of working in communal districts
  - ✓ Decentralized structures
  - ✓ Building networks
  - ✓ Strengthening civil society actors
- Cooperation with migrant associations
- „Samo.fa“ project supports active volunteers from migrant associations in their work with refugees
  - ✓ Networking
  - ✓ Counseling
  - ✓ Funding



Photo: City of Nuremberg

## 4.9 Volunteering and communication

- Public Relations:
  - ✓ Information session for citizens
  - ✓ “Citizen Hotline Refugee Relief”
  - ✓ Newsletter for civic engagement
  - ✓ Online performance and Social Media
- Coordination and Support for Volunteers
  - ✓ Networking for groups of helpers
  - ✓ Qualification and training measures
  - ✓ Publications and Working Papers
- Culture of Recognition
  - ✓ Event on the “Culture of Welcoming”
  - ✓ Honoring of translators



Photo: Christine Dierenbach / City of Nuremberg

## 5. Good practices

- ✓ Voluntary commitment and the engagement of the civil society are crucial
- ✓ Long-term efforts to establish a tolerant communal society is essential

### Example:

#### ***„Nuremberg is colorful“:***

- A project including multiple campaigns, workshops, trainings and activities, linked to specific urban districts, aiming to promote diversity as an asset

- ***Communication for integration (C4I)***

EU Project, that developed innovative strategies for communication and networking in 11 European in order to spread information on diversity and migration, debunking myths and stereotypes.

For more information: <http://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/c4i>



***Thank you  
for your kind attention!***

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