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SDRUŽENÍ ASSOCIATION
PRO INTEGRACI FOR INTEGRATION
A MIGRACI AND MIGRATION

AIM ANNUAL REPORT 2012

Association for Integration and Migration (AIM)

Senovážná str. 2, 110 00, Prague
IČ 26612933
Account No. 182096102/0300 (ČSOB, a.s.)
T: +420 224 224 379
F: +420 224 239 455
E: poradna@refug.cz
www.migrace.com

Graphic Design: Ota Murachashvili
Print: Agentura FotoServis

CONTENTS

FOREWORD 4

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO 6

MEMBERSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS 8

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION 10

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012 12

COUNSELLING 16

ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING 22

INFLUENCING THE PUBLIC 32

PUBLICATIONS 36

VOLUNTEERING 40

PEOPLE IN AIM 42

FINANCIAL REPORT 46

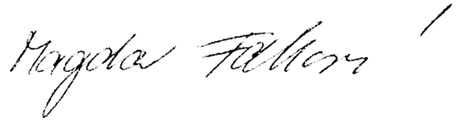
FOREWORD

Dear friends and supporters of AIM

In 2012 we celebrated 20 years of successful existence of the organization. During these 20 years our lawyers and social workers have served more than 40 000 migrants. They have written hundreds of legal submissions and have helped finding jobs, places to stay and schools to hundreds of our clients. Thousands of pages were filled with claims, additions to the files or motions to the inactions of administrative bodies. We won hundreds of cases on behalf of our clients but hundreds were lost as well. We made remarks and comments to dozens of laws and their amendments. We have been repeatedly warning the media and general public about injustice and absence of law regarding the foreigners in the Czech Republic. We have as well helped to publish the stories of migrants, who found a new home here, created new families and are living a happy life here.

The past year was marked by both successes and failures; we have learned something new and continued with our usual activities that we have been doing for years now. We have begun with media activities - made a social spot and documentary film, got the support of the Czech Television and slowly begun to discover the hidden secrets of the media world. The working team has been successfully changed and stabilized. The year 2012 was for us, however, a year of big loss as well - our dear and longtime colleague, a social worker Tamara Akulasvili, died after serious illness. We will always think of her with love and respect, along with dozens of migrants who had the opportunity to meet her and whose lives in the Czech Republic were positively influenced by her work.

Dana Němcová and Anna Grušová, who founded this organization 20 years ago, gave the organization its purpose and meaning – to protect basic human rights of migrants and to facilitate their integration into society. It is my honor to be able to continue in their work together with other employees and volunteers of AIM and I sincerely thank to all the donors who are making our work possible.



Magda Faltová

director

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The Association for Integration and Migration (AIM) is a human rights organisation which has advocated for the rights of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic for over 20 years. We support foreign nationals in particular by providing them with free legal and social counselling which is intended for all foreign nationals regardless of their residence status. We advise foreign nationals particularly in areas related to their residence in the Czech Republic, employment, housing, education, social security, social benefits or health insurance. We provide counselling in person, by telephone or by means of a written consultation. You can read more on these services in the chapter Counselling.

In its activities, the AIM also works with the public at large with the aim of developing tolerance and combating xenophobia and racism. We try to achieve this particularly by organizing public lectures at schools, conferences, seminars, round tables, and by participating in various festivals and cultural events. In 2012 we organized and participated in a whole range of such activities. More on that can be found in chapter Influencing the public. The AIM has also joined various national and international campaigns and is a member of international networks aiming at reducing xenophobia and racism in the society and advocating for the rights of refugees and migrants. More on this topic can be found in chapters Memberships and partnerships, International cooperation.

Within its activities, the AIM also actively contributes to drafting and influencing the migration and asylum legislation of the Czech Republic. This topic is elaborated on in chapter Advocacy and lobbying. By submitting complaints, publishing specialist articles, participating in statements of non-profit organisations from the field of migration and by advocacy, we strive for a better and more cooperative setting of conditions for foreign nationals in the Czech Republic in the long term. An AIM representative is also a member of the Government Council for Human Rights and the Council for the Rights of Foreign Nationals.

MEMBERSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS

MEMBERSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS

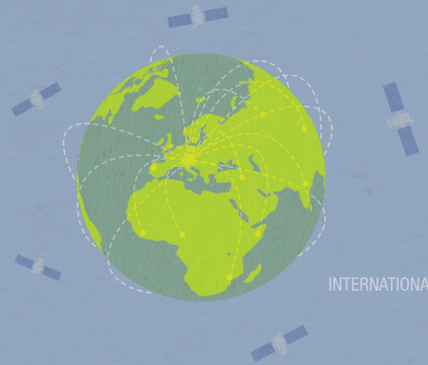
Over the past several years, the AIM has participated in the activities and development of the Czech network of the Consortium of Non-governmental Organisations Working with Migrants, which associates 14 member non-governmental organisations as well as 1 observer and presents their joint stance on the current developments in the area of migration in the Czech Republic. The AIM team makes an active contribution to the work of the Executive Committee of the Consortium and specialist groups (legal, social, media, advocacy). More on the activities of Consortium can be found at www.konsorcium-nno.cz.

On the national level, the AIM is also a member of the European Network Against Racism Czech Republic (ENAR CR, www.enar.helcom.cz). Since last year, an AIM representative has participated in the Workgroup for Economic Migration (WEM) of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

In addition, the AIM runs a number of its own projects in partnership with other entities active in the field of migration, be it in the non-profit sector, research, private sector, and public administration. In 2012, the AIM had the following partners:

- **People in Need**
- **Integration Centre Prague**
- **Multicultural Centre Prague**
- **Economics Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic**
- **Ogilvy & Mather**
- **Organisation for Aid to Refugees**

However, not least important was also our informal collaboration with **La Strada** or the **Filipino-Czech** Association and some **foreign embassies** in the Czech Republic, in particular that of Philippines, Thailand, the USA, and France. We also foster our collaboration **with state authorities on the regional level**, e.g. with the Department of Social and Legal Protection of Children of Municipal Authorities of the Capital City of Prague, the Labour Office – Regional Branch of the Capital City of Prague and the Regional Branch for the Ústí Region or with the Regional Labour Inspectorate for the Capital City of Prague and the Regional Labour Inspectorates for Ústí and Liberec Regions.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In 2012, the Association for Integration and Migration continued to be an active member of several international human rights networks, regularly informing the European public about its activities through their websites, while also disseminating calls and press releases of these networks in the Czech Republic. In addition, the AIM team attended several international conferences and workshops or held meetings with representatives of networks tackling current issues in the area of migration in 2012.

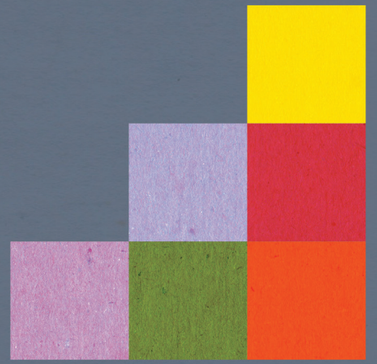
In 2012, the AIM was or became a member of the following transnational networks:

- **Platform for Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants** (PICUM)
- **Separated Children in Europe Programme** (SCEP)
- **UNITED for Intercultural Action**
- **Research Network for Domestic Workers Rights** (RN-DWR)
- **European Statelessness Network** (ESN)

Last year, the AIM also fostered collaboration with some international non-governmental organisations upon implementation of key projects, in particular in the area of labour migration and strengthening collaboration of the non-profit sector with public administration in tackling the issue of social integration of labour migrants. Mutual relationships were strengthened in particular thanks to international internships of the AIM team in partner organisations and seminars held in Prague which enabled the international partners to present themselves also at public events of AIM. In 2012, the AIM had the following international partners, both within the AIM projects or outside them:

- **Anti-Slavery International** (United Kingdom)
- **Caritasverband für die Diözese Osnabrück** (Germany)
- **ComuniDária** (Portugal)
- **Solidariedade Imigrante** (Portugal)
- **Stowarzyszenie Interwencji Prawnej** (Poland)
- **Zentrum für MigrantInnen in Tirol** (Austria)

More information on AIM memberships and partners can be found on our website www.migrace.com in the section Our membership.



ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012

- We celebrated 20 years of activity!
- We contributed to two monographies published by the Linde Publishing House (Solution to Issues of Unlawful Residence of Foreign Nationals – Situation in the Czech Republic and Selected European Countries; Immigration Law)
- We issued a separate publication on labour migration in the Czech Republic, containing a comparative analysis of Austria and Portugal (Increasing the Role of Non-Profit Sector in the Area of Social Integration of Labour Migrants in the Czech Republic – Comparison of Portugal and Austrian Practice).
- We shot a documentary called “A Better Life” about the life of labour migrants in the Czech Republic.
- We ran a successful campaign in support of female foreign nationals working in Czech households called “Do you know who cleans your place”?
- We became a member of the newly established international European Statelessness Network.
- We entered into a partnership with the Filipino-Czech Association.
- We participated in a round table of the Council of Europe in Paris on the topic Protection of the Rights of Migrants in Europe.
- We gave lectures to consuls of foreign embassies in the Czech Republic.
- We compiled statements on the European Commission´s Green Paper on the Right of Family Reunification of Third-Country Nationals as well as the ratification of the ILO Domestic Workers Convention.
- We prepared a report on migration, asylum and protection of national borders for the Annual Report of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) on behalf of the Czech Republic.
- We contributed to the advocacy of the Consortium on the issues of political participation of foreign nationals, acquiring Czech state citizenship, and employment of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic.
- We provided counselling and assistance to more than 1,547 clients of AIM.

A STORY OF SUCCESS FROM OUR LEGAL COUNSELLING:

Mrs U. from Mongolia arrived in the Czech Republic in 2004 to work here. However, she lost her job, and thus ceased to comply with the purpose of her residence on the territory of the Czech Republic. She had to leave the Czech Republic, but she could not return to Mongolia because during her stay abroad she lost all her contacts there and saw her future in working in the Czech Republic. Thus, she stayed in the Czech Republic without a residence permit (illegally). Due to her illegal residence she was granted an administrative deportation in 2009. Since she feared return, she applied for an international protection (asylum) in the Czech Republic. Already in 2005 she met her boyfriend of Angolian nationality who had a permanent residence here. They started to live together in 2007. In 2009 a daughter was born in the relationship and was granted Angolian citizenship after her father. After the international protection procedure had ended without Mrs U. having been granted international protection, there was a risk that the family could break and Mrs U. would have to leave the Czech Republic either with her daughter or without her despite the fact that she was fully integrated in the Czech Republic. In the meantime, Mrs U.´s boyfriend was granted Czech citizenship.

Mrs U. addressed the Czech Ministry of Interior, the Department of Asylum and Migration Policy, with the application for a temporary residence. The administrative deportation was a big obstacle for her in this respect. Therefore, she asked the Czech Police to annule this decision with the rationale that she lives with a Czech citizen with whom she has a daughter, they are a real family, and cannot live anywhere else than in the Czech Republic. She and her boyfriend intended to confirm their relationship by marriage soon. One of the conditions for a foreign national to be able to get married in the Czech Republic is a proof of legal residence. For this purpose, Mrs U. went to the Czech Police where, however, she was detained and launched a criminal procedure against because she did not leave the country as was stipulated by the decision about administrative deportation. Mrs U. was thus in a very difficult life situation because a contingent punishment would result in an almost certain rejection of her application for temporary residence, which would finally destroy a very well functioning family. Therefore, Mrs U. addressed the President with an application for pardon and suspension of the pending criminal procedure. The President did grant her a pardon, which was the first step for Mrs U. towards being granted a temporary residence in the Czech Republic. Subsequently, the Czech Police annulled her administrative deportation, which was followed by a temporary residence granted by the Ministry of Interior.

Despite the fact that the case of Mrs U. seemed insolvable first and the lawyers with whom she originally tackled her case did not give her any chances, the AIM lawyers chose such procedure which resulted in Mrs U. living legally with all her family in the Czech Republic now, and she found a job here. She and her husband applied for the Czech state citizenship for their daughter because the Czech Republic is not only her home, but the home of the whole family.

COUNSELLING

COUNSELLING

We have provided free legal, social and psychosocial counselling to migrants for over twenty years. Our clients are third country nationals as well as nationals of EU member states. Migrants contact us in our offices; we also address them in our outreach work or by means of electronic media and social networks. Most often, however, new clients come upon recommendation of our existing clients or upon recommendation of non-profit organisations or authorities. The provision of counselling complies with principles of expertise, discreetness and individual approach to every individual contacting us.

Within social counselling we mostly provide assistance with finding or keeping a job; we provide professional and educational counselling; counselling in the area of housing, health care and insurance, state social benefits or debt and family counselling. In addition to specialist counselling in the areas specified, we offer our clients assistance with communication with institutions, we facilitate contact with them, and train various skills or integration activities. The AIM is a registered social services provider pursuant to the Act 108/2006 Coll., on Social Services.

In the area of legal counselling we specialize in particular in the immigration law (granting, renewal or termination of residence). We also look into the issue of state citizenship and the international protection procedure. Other frequently provided legal counselling concerns labour law, e.g. enforcement of due salary, tackling occupational safety, and unlawful termination of labour relationship. Last, but not least we cover family and civil law (care for children, divorce, and marriage).

COUNSELLING TOPICS IN 2012

Employment

The ongoing economic downturn has impacted on the Czech labour market as well. The AIM clients thus frequently needed help with compiling their CVs, finding adequate retraining, planning and establishing their own trade.

In 2012, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MLSA) issued a range of instructions and guidelines concerning the issuance of work permits to foreign nationals and their access to the labour market which tightened employment of foreign nationals. For an issuance of work permit, nostrification of the accomplished education is newly requested, which is a lengthy and costly procedure burdening universities, regional authorities, employers and of course foreign nationals; moreover, this requirement is not stipulated by law. Despite longstanding criticism by non-profit organisations and employers, the instructions could not be abolished in 2012.

Non-compliance with statutory time limits

V In 2011, the Ministry of Interior (MI) took over the agenda of long-term residences and visas from the Foreign Police. Since then the Ministry of Interior has failed to meet statutory time limits for issuance of decisions by several months, often by a year or more. Clients often ask us how they can quickly and efficiently defend themselves against inactivity, which is, however, practically impossible.

A STORY OF SUCCESS FROM OUR SOCIAL COUNSELLING:

Mrs Marie is from Belarus. She used to work as a nurse in Baku, her husband used to work as a car mechanic. Mrs Marie´s brother is a relatively well-known blogger who often comments on circumstances in Belarus and was active in the opposition movement against dictator Lukashenko. Mrs Marie was not politically active in the past. After her brother had been detained and convicted, she joined the opposition movement and stood up in defence of her brother and a fair trial. Soon, she started having problems at work, and eventually she was dismissed. After her husband had started having problems, too, they decided to emigrate. They used the first opportunity offered to them and left for the Czech Republic where they applied for international protection.

Their beginnings in the Czech Republic were difficult. Mrs Marie did not understand the language; it was difficult for her to find her way in the new environment also due to the fact that she could not work legally in the first year. In view of the language and partially qualification barrier, too, she could not find work in her field after the first year. Therefore, she moonlighted as a cleaner in households and offices. She has lived in the Czech Republic for 3 years, and speaks Czech fairly well, but her application for political asylum has not been granted yet. Six months ago, she started an intensive search for work according to her qualification with an AIM colleague. They translated and had her diploma nostrified together in the past, then they were browsing vacant job offers for nurses. Mrs Marie eventually found and contacted the Bulovka Hospital on her own where a nurse for the Department of Infectious Diseases was needed. In order to be able to receive a work agreement, she needed a work permit from the Labour Office. In view of the fact that this was not a usual task of the department, the social worker explained the whole application procedure. He was also a mediator between the hospital, the Labour Office and the client – prospective nurse. Having fulfilled all the formalities, Mrs Marie could start her dreamy job. The work is by no means easy and is all the more difficult for her as she did not work in the field for several years. However, she likes her new work, learning new things every day, and her superiors are happy with her.

PROJECTS

OPEN DOORS

Implementation period: 1 February 2011 – 30 June 2012
Supported by the Ministry of the interior from the European Refugee Fund, the Municipality of the Capital City of Prague (MCCP) and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs – Purpose-Bound Subsidy for Social and Legal Counselling for Migrants

The Project aimed at free legal and social counselling for individuals who applied for international protection on the territory of the Czech Republic and individuals whom international protection was granted by means of asylum or subsidiary protection.

Clients contacted us mainly due to lengthy international protection procedures, with requests for assistance with compiling claims or other written submissions or with requests for representation in court procedures. Our consultations also covered queries concerning employment, education, retraining, and housing. Over the entire project period, clients could make use of psychosocial consultations which helped them cope with their difficult personal situation.

Within the project, 534 legal and 452 social consultations were provided to more than 200 clients. The total of 30 clients received psychosocial support. The total of 25 clients received financial assistance amounting to CZK 19,500.

HELPING HAND 3

Implementation period: 1 January 2011 – 30 June 2012
Supported by the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals, the Municipality of the Capital City of Prague – Social Grant for Specialist Social and Legal Counselling for Migrants

The project was based on a counselling concept which was already tested in previous years during implementation of similar Helping Hand 1 and 2 projects. It aimed at helping foreign nationals from countries outside the EU understand their rights and obligations and assist them with solving their extraordinary life situation. The three main pillars of the project were traditionally legal, social, and psychosocial counselling. The wide range of counselling services offered within the project enabled us to solve the situation of every single client individually and at the same time from the perspective of multiple specialist fields. The

services were provided predominantly in the AIM offices, from time to time we accompanied clients to authorities or we provided the services in places of their frequent occurrence (shops with extended opening hours, shops with national products, orthodox churches etc.). Services within this project were used by the total of 1,438 foreign nationals.

INTEGRATION CENTRE PRAGUE

Implementation period: 1 April 2012 – 31 March 2013
Supported by the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals and the the Municipality of the Capital City of Prague

The Integration Centre Prague (ICP) created a project in collaboration with four non-profit organisations (including the AIM), offering a range of integration activities for migrants in the Capital City of Prague. As a partner organisation of ICP, the AIM provides in particular free legal and social counselling within the project. In addition, the project includes courses of Czech, courses of sociocultural orientation and outreach social work with entire families in their natural environment. Within the project, a central office with a community centre and classrooms in Žitná Street 51 in Prague 1 as well as 4 branches on the outskirts of Prague (in Prague 4, 12, 13, 14) were opened. The AIM operates mainly in the branch in Prague 13.

The target group are third country nationals with a legal residence from the whole of the Czech Republic. In the counselling, clients are not only informed about their rights and duties, but their particular issues – which most often relate to their residence in the Czech Republic – are solved with them, too. Very often we had to tackle issues which arose due to inactivitiy of administrative bodies; we compiled submissions for residence permit procedures, various applications and claims. Employment, education and retraining, health insurance, pensions and other benefits, and housing were other major fields in which counselling was provided.

Throughout the project, more than 1,900 clients were assisted, and many of them visit us repeatedly. In exceptional cases, clients were also provided financial assistance. More on the Integration Centre Prague can be found at www.icpraha.com.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES ON THE THRESHOLD OF CZECH HOMES

Implementation period: 1 July 2012 – 30 June 2014
Supported by the European Social Fund through the Operational Program Human Resources and Employment and the Czech Republic state budget.

The project aims at safeguarding equal rights and opportunities in the labour market and the society for female migrants working in Czech households. The project covers in particular women at risk of unemployment or women who have started a business, aiming at balancing their position, cutting their vulnerability, and strengthening their rights. Another objective of the project is to open a public debate and reflect upon the topic of domestic work, while strengthening the empathy of the public towards female migrants working in households, and particularly the feeling of shared responsibility in employers for working and living conditions of these women. To this end, the project includes counselling, awareness raising, research and media activities. Together with our project partner, the Centre for Economic Research and Graduate Education – Economics Institute, we plan to cover the situation of a problematic group of female migrants in a specialist research. Within the project, a web platform www.pracovnicevdomacnosti.cz with useful general information on the issue of domestic work for female migrants and the public is about to be launched, and will also be further communicated in an extensive campaign. The project also includes instruction courses for female migrants, seminars for non-profit organisations as well as specialist assistance to particular female migrants and employers by means of free legal and social counselling.

ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING

ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING

Over the past years, the AIM has intensely developed its advocacy and networking activities, aiming at an active support of a better position of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic vis-à-vis authors of migration strategy and other relevant stakeholders as well as strengthening the role of non-profit sector in the area of migration. In 2012, the AIM in particular looked into the three major issues in the area of influencing the immigration law:

- Restriction of access of foreign nationals to labour market
- New law on entry and residence of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic
- Amendment to the Citizenship Act

In 2012, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs issued several guidelines, restricting the access of foreign nationals to the labour market and to a major extent encroaching on the rights of migrants. In most of its advocacy activities in the area of labour market, the AIM thus focused on cancellation or at least mitigation of these measures. First, we actively joined the happening and declaration of NGOs against these measures. In addition, we addressed this topic in collaboration with other NGOs from the Consortium in a session of the Council for the Rights of Foreign Nationals in a legal analysis of measures of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs with the title Instructions of the MLSA for 2012/Guidelines of the Director General of the Labour Office of the Czech Republic and their Conflict with Applicable Law (see www.konsorcium-nno.cz).

Tightening of requirements for access of foreign nationals to the Czech labour market by means of nostrifications or a ban on business trips for foreign employees were also debated at the Workgroup for Economic Migration (WEM) at the Ministry of Industry and Trade. The issue of economic migration and protection of rights of labour migrants was also tackled during our ongoing work on legislation concerning the new law on the entry and residence of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic managed by the Ministry of Interior.

In addition, the AIM worked on the new draft Act on State Citizenhip, and considers it to be a tool for integration of foreign nationals into the Czech society. We tried to influence the governmental draft together with other NGOs on the governmental level as well as in the Chamber of Deputies later on. We joined the open letter to the Government; we initiated an opened letter to Deputies, and participated in the preparation of amendments (see www.konsorcium-nno.cz). These activities aimed at avoiding the tightening of conditions for granting state citizenship to foreign nationals who are already fully integrated into the society and labour market.

In 2012, the AIM played an active role in launching an **effective collaboration with Labour Offices and Labour Inspectorates** on the issues of employment of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic by means of round tables and transfer of good practice from abroad, especially from Austria and Portugal. Of great importance was also the participation of the AIM team in the Advisory Platform of the Integration Centre Prague which in late 2012 compiled the **integration strategy of foreign nationals for the Capital City of Prague**. This gave us the opportunity to make a major contribution to elaboration of public policy on the local level.

The longstanding experience of the AIM team has helped us in becoming acknowledged experts in migration issues who are increasingly addressed to publish **specialist articles or commentaries** on current developments in the field of migration or to collaborate on expert publications and legal analyses. This activity peaked by important work on the Immigration Law (CZ: Cizinecké právo), published by the Linde Publishing House, and compilation of our own publication on the topic of labour migration and strengthening the role of non-profit sector in this field (more on that in the chapter Publications).

On the **Europen level,** 2012 saw the AIM participating in the compilation of the Annual Report of the the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) for 2011 as well as other international specialist materials, e.g. on the position of senior migrants in Europe for the European network ENAR. In terms of international documents, we compiled a statement on behalf of the Czech Republic on the European Commission´s Green Paper on the Right of Family Reunification of Third-Country Nationals. In connection to our campaign targeting female domestic workers we promoted ratification of the ILO Domestic Workers Convention which was debated by the Czech Parliament in the summer 2012. /We called on the Senators to ratify the Convention and participated in the meeting of the Senate Committee./ In collaboration with PICUM, we tackled the issue of labour rights of irregular migrants and implementation of Sactions Directive.

PROJECTS

NEW ALIEN ACT

Implementation period: 1 October 2011 – 30 April 2012
Supported by Open Society Fund Prague

On the turn of 2011 and 2012, the AIM, the Multucultural Centre Prague and the Organisation for Aid to Refugees ran a project which – despite its short duration – managed to open new opportunities of partnering non-profit organisations in their lobbying and advocacy activities. The project aimed at maintaining and improving the rights of migrants, particularly in relation to the emerging Amendment to Alien Act. In doing so, we used the unique opportunity to influence the form of this Act. To this end, the project used various means such as draft laws and commentaries, policy briefs, presentation of the topin in the media, meeting policy makers etc.

However, the principal effort of the implementation team was to launch a long-term collaboration with academia (especially universities) and entrepreneurial sector, in particular with the aim to establish experience of these stakeholders with (a) the current Alien Act and its implementation in practice, and (b) the contents of the proposed new draft bill. On the one hand, we managed to convene a large and very lively round table with representatives of the academia and responsible public bodies to this end (minutes at www.migraceonline.cz). On the other hand, the AIM asked the American Chamber of Commerce and some multinationals for a closer collaboration, which resulted in its membership of the Workgroup for Economic Migration of the Ministry of Industry and Trade which regularly meets representatives of employers with the aim of tackling current issues in the area of labour migration in the Czech Republic.

INCREASING THE ROLE OF NGOS IN THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF LABOUR MIGRANTS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Implementation period: 1 January 2011 – 31 December 2012
Supported by the European Social Fund through the Operational Program Human Resources and Employment and the Czech Republic state budget.

Over the whole 2012, a very successful international project of the AIM with the shortened title “NGOs and Labour Migration” ran in collaboration with international partners from the Centre for Migrants in Tyrol, Austria, and Solidariedade Imigrante in Portugal. The project aimed at contributing to remedying the distorted labour market in the Czech Republic and in particular helping foreign nationals in the labour market eliminate problems they encounter when looking for or performing work. The project implementation combined counselling, awareness raising, lobbying and networking activities which were predominantly intended for foreign nationals who worked legally in the CR or attempted to do so with a special emphasis on female migrants at risk of unemployment. The project gave these people an opportunity to receive free qualified counselling with the aim to enforce their rights, combat exploitation on the part of various mediators and communicate with governmental institutions in a better and easier way. The current issues of foreign nationals in their life and work in the CR were also graphically illustrated by the project documentary “A Better Life”, which was based on personal stories of four protagonists. You can read more on the documentary in the chapter Influencing the public.

DO YOU KNOW WHO CLEANS YOUR PLACE?

The project also covered a specific group of female workers – migrants from third countries working in Czech households. Using an extensive awareness raising video campaing "Do you know who cleans your place?", the AIM drew the attention of the Czech public to this overlooked social group and the need to change this approach. The campaign also aimed at showing foreign nationals themselves that they do have their rights as well and can stand up for them efficiently. An instruction video for female migrants, information flyers and a short video for the public were created within the campaign.

The video with a Ukrainian cleaner who easily calculates a lost mathematic assignment of her employer flew around the world. On Czech portals alone it had more than 80,000 views and it attracted great interest also in Ukraine where the spot aroused such curiosity that the Ukrainian INTER TV came to Prague to shoot here about the campaign. The video won a number of competition and festival awards (Češinci, Ciné Migratório, Žihadlo, Marketing and Media). The campaign received great support also from the Czech Television which ran the spot on ČT 1, 2 and 24 Channels and enabled the AIM team to appear in its releases.

The "NGOs and Labour Migration" project was innovative in the Czech environment in that it looked for new ways of supporting migrants in their intergration into the labour market by means of establishing, developing and maintaining the relationship between the non-profit sector and public administration, particularly Labour Offices, and mediating between authorities and migrants. The AIM drew inspiration for this model from international partner organisations which contributed to the project by transfer of good practice from their countries to the CR, in particular by seminars and round tables in Prague, Pilsen and Ústí nad Labem as well as by international internships of the AIM team. The resulting comparative publication and the eponymous project as well as collected examples of good practice may also be used by other NGOs or Labour Offices and other state authorities when tackling the issue of social intergration of foreign nationals in the labour market. More on the publication can be found in the chapter Publications and also on our website www.migrace.com where you can download it. You can also pick up the book for free in the AIM office.

FOREIGN WORKERS ON THE LABOUR MARKET

Implementation period: 1 October 2012 – 30 September 2014
Supported by European Social Fund through Operational Programme Human Ressources and Employment

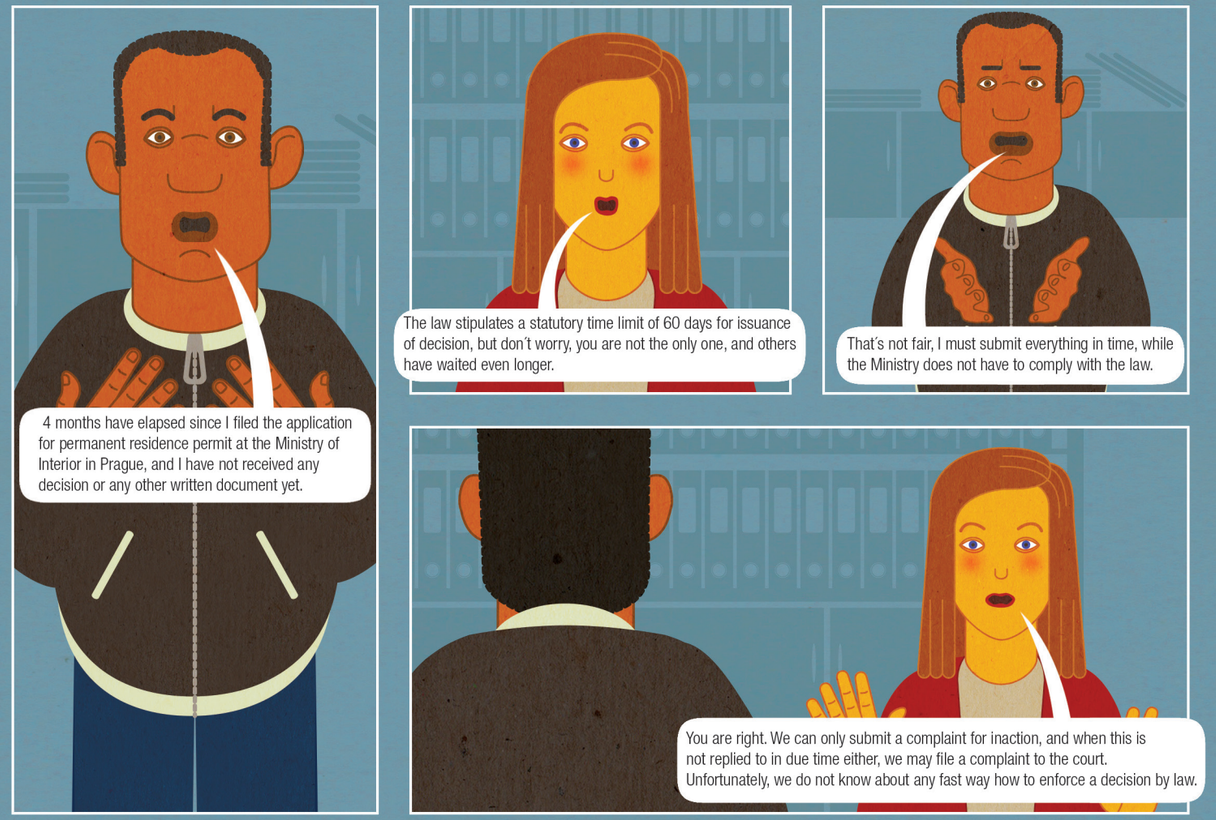
In autumn 2012, a biennial international project which the AIM runs together with partner organisations, the Multicultural Centre Prague and Organisation for Aid to Refugees, was launched. The project focuses on opening a public debate and tackling the so far neglected issue of occupational safety of foreign nationals (occupational injuries, occupational illnesses) as well as the issue of strengthening equal rights of foreign nationals in the Czech labour market with the support of developing international collaboration in this area. The key project activity is launching a thematic network with international partners, the UK Anti-Slavery International and German Caritasverband für die Diezöse Osnabrück, which will help transfer information, share good practice, and address and include key players from the CR and EU countries. Strengthening of structural instruments is also key, resulting in a higher protection of international workers, which primarily focuses on the area of labour judicature, inspections of Labour Inspectorates, and the activity of trade unions.

The individual outputs and experience made during the project will be presented to the public in a specialist comparative study on the issues of international employment, case studies from outreach work on a special internet platform www.migraceonline.cz or in a handbook for foreign nationals and helping professions and a range of presentations in the media. Not least important, there will also be public debates, international internships and seminars or a final project conference to be organized in 2013 and 2014. The project also includes advocacy for individual rights of foreign nationals in the labour market against the backdrop of application of international experience. All activities put a special emphasis on female foreign nationals as those potentially more vulnerable compared to other individuals in the labour market.

FOR UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS' RIGHTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE

Implementation period: 1. September 2012 – 31 December 2014
Coordinator: Association for Legal Intervention
Partners: Association for Integration and Migration, ARCA, MENEDEK, Society of Goodwill
Supported by the European Programme on Integration and Migration (EPIM)

The project aims at monitoring and striving for implementation of measures included in the Sanctions Directive No. 2009/52/ES, which stipulates minimum criteria for sanctions and measures against employers of third country workers working without residence permit in five Central European countries: Poland, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, and Hungary. Partner organisations provide free legal counselling to irregular migrants and to those at risk of irregularity within the project. An awareness raising campaign for these individuals is run throughout the whole of CR as well by means of flyers informing about risks related to their unlawful status in every individual project country. The project aims at developing a strategic litigation in relation to illegal employment of foreign nationals without a residence permit in Central European countries. In the first project step, for these purposes the AIM elaborated a legal analysis on the transposition of the Sanctions Directive in the Czech national law. Project partners share information and experience at regular joint meetings.



INFLUENCING THE PUBLIC

INFLUENCING THE PUBLIC

In 2012, the AIM continued to exert an active influence on the Czech public to increase tolerance to foreign nationals. In the long run, we aim at raising the awareness of the Czech public about the situation of foreign nationals and issues tackled by them on their way to the Czech Republic and in the course of their life here. The AIM team regularly presented their own contributions or they made statements on current developments in the area of migration in the media. In 2012, the issue of domestic work was a hot topic in the media, particularly in connection with the AIM campaign in support of domestic workers, "Do you know who cleans your place?", as well as the failure to adopt the Domestic Workers Convention or the topic of (lacking) granting of work permits to foreign nationals.

The AIM representatives furthermore participated in a range of discussions, seminars and conferences on the topic of migration or asylum. We organized a number of round tables on the topic of integration of foreign nationals into the labour market within the "NGOs and Labour Migration" project. Labour migration was also a key topic of the Better Life documentary, which we shot in collaboration with Jan Látal and which was produced by DW Agentura in the latter half of 2012. The documentary was first released in the Světozor Cinema in December 2012 and may now be viewed online on YouTube. One DVD copy is also available in the AIM office.

A BETTER LIFE

The movie tells a story of four migrants from Ukraine, Vietnam, Kyrgyzstan, and Moldavia who chose the Czech Republic to be the place they wanted to live and work. It is the dream of a better life which brings them here. How is life and work for them here? How do they see our country and our mentality? What issues do they have to tackle on their way to the Czech Republic and in the course of their life here? Do migrants really live their better life here?

Against the backdrop of specific stories, the movie also shows the role of non-profit organisations working with migrants in the process of integration of foreign nationals into the Czech society.

The documentary also includes dialogues with representatives of the Austrian partner organisation Centre for Migrants in Tyrol (ZeMiT) on the topic of integration of labour migrants into the labour market and the role of non-profit organisations in this process. A trailer may be viewed on the YouTube profile of the AIM, which you may also access through our website www.migrace.com.

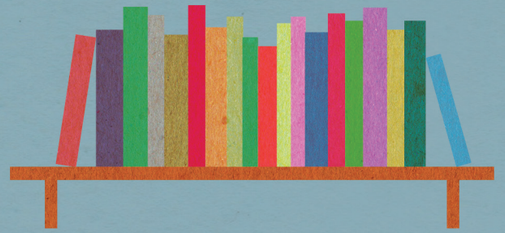
2012 was successful also with regard to using public events to present the organisation and its activities. The AIM promotional stand was at a number of festivals in Prague and regions. We traditionally presented our activities at RefuFest, the Vibrant Nine, the Respekt Festival, the Different City Experience or Big Challenge festivals. In 2012, we also had the opportunity to meet the public at 5 multicultural events and discussions at schools which we prepared in collaboration with our clients on the topic of personal stories and countries of their origin.

PROJECTS

LET´S GIVE CHANCE TO IMMIGRANTS

Implementation period: 1 January 2011 – 30 June 2012
Supported by Ministry of Interior from the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals and the US Embassy Prague

The project focused on promoting the integration of foreign nationals and informing the public about the issue of migration in debates and multicultural evenings. A series of 13 meetings of foreign nationals with pupils from basic schools and students of grammar schools were prepared in the project and were followed by the same number of multicultural evenings which brought the issues linked to labour migration and life of migrants in the CR closer to young people and the public. Discussions with pupils on the topic of migration were held in interactive workshops with participation of specialists and particular foreign nationals, where the students had the opportunity to hear personal stories of migrants and discuss the issue of integration. The multicultural evenings informally picked on the debates, informing the students´parents and the public about other countries through presentations of their culture and traditions (music, food, customs, photography exhibition, screening etc.). The project aimed at contributing to elimination of intolerance and prejudice of the Czech society to foreign nationals and to its awareness. In the course of 2012, the total of 5 debates and multicultural evenings were held within the project on the topics of Ivory Coast, Cuba, New Zealand, Ukraine, and Ghana. We thank all the participants. Pictures from the evenings may be viewed on our website www.migrace.com in the section Gallery.



PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

2012 was very rich in terms of specialist publications compiled in the area of migration. In early 2012 a monography with the title Solution to Issues of Unlawful Residence of Foreign Nationals – **Situation in the Czech Republic and Selected European Countries (CZ: Řešení otázek neoprávněného pobytu cizinců – situace v ČR a ve vybraných evropských zemích)** was published by the Linde Publishing House. The book was compiled by a team of authors from the project Regularization as One of the Tools to Combat Illegal Migration, which the AIM implemented in partnership with the Organisation for Aid to Refugees and the Multicultural Centre Prague from 1 June 2009 to 31 May 2011 with financial support of the European Social Fund within the Human Resources and Employment Operational Programme. On behalf of the AIM, lawyers Pavla Hradečná, Eva Valentová and Klára Holíková made their contributions as authors.

This is the first monography in the Czech Republic on a fairly controversial topic of irregular migration in the current European framework. The authors strive for explaining to what extent the current fight against this phenomenon may preponderate over the protection of particular human rights. They contemplate about what procedures in this area are legitimate and what, on the contrary, is inacceptable in a democratic modern state. The leitmotif of the publication is regularization, which is the most widely used term for a measure by which the state allows residence to those who have stayed on its territory without the necessary residence permit. Besides legal aspects related to life without a residence permit in the CR, in Spain and Portugal, the book takes a look at complex and often dramatic stories of people of the second or third category who tend to be denied even the most basic rights.

More information on the book is available at www.linde.cz or www.migrace.com (the section Publications).

In autumn 2012, the Linde Publishing House published another monography by a team of authors from the non-profit sector headed by solicitor Pavel Čižinský with the title **Immigration Law (CZ: Cizinecké právo)**. Three AIM lawyers, Pavla Hradečná, Magda Faltová and Eva Valentová, made their contributions to the book as authors, too.

This book is the first specialist publication offering a cross-section through various legal issues which foreign nationals living in the Czech Republic encounter in their daily life. The specific topics were selected by authors based on their longstanding practical experience. The publication not only looks into the right of entry and residence of foreign nationals (including EU citizens) in the territory of the CR and the Schengen Area, but also into a range of other legal fields in which foreign nationals are granted other rights and obligations by law than Czech

citizens. Readers will also get a practical overview over Czech state citizenship, the right of citizens to perform employment or run a business, the rights of foreign nationals in the area of social security and social assistance, the position of foreign nationals in the area of driving motor vehicles, acquiring real estate by foreign nationals, legal aspects of mixed marriages or some other specifics about the position of foreign nationals in criminal procedure.

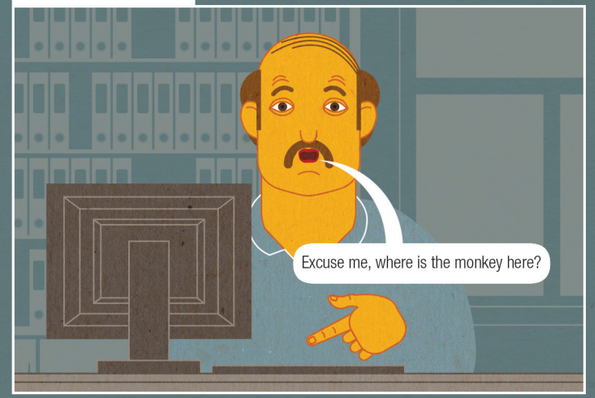
More details on the book are available at www.linde.cz or www.migrace.com (the section Publications).

In December 2012, the AIM published at its expenses a specialist publication with the title I**ncreasing the Role of Non-Profit Sector in the Area of Social Integration of Labour Migrants in the Czech Republic – Comparison of Portugal and Austrian Practice (CZ: Zvýšení role neziskového sektoru v oblasti sociální integrace pracovních migrantů v České republice – srovnání praxe v Portugalsku a Rakousku**) within the eponymous project which the AIM ran in partnership with international non-profit organisations Solidariedade Imigrante from Portugal and the Centre for Migrants in Tyrol from Austria from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2012 with the financial support of funds from the European Social Fund within the Human Resources and Employment Operational Programme.

The specialist publication is divided into two major parts. The first part, predominantly theoretical, contains an analysis of labour migration in the CR against a broader background focusing on the state of social integration of labour migrants, their rights and position in the Czech labour market, the issue of illegal work and its prevention as well as key issues in the field of labour migration and integration against the European backdrop and in both partner countries – Austria and Portugal. The other part compares the functioning of the non-profit sector in the field of labour migration in countries represented in the project, focusing on how their work is interconnected with Labour Offices and other entities in Portugal and Austria, on which suggestions and stimuli to create and foster such form of collaboration in the CR. This part also looks into the current position of Czech non-profit organisations in the process of social integration of labour migrants in general, their services for target groups and their further perspective in this field.

The publication may be downloaded from www.migrace.com (the section Publications) and picked up for free in the AIM office.

AIM internet corner



VOLUNTEERING

VOLUNTEERING

Like in previous years, volunteers were indispensable for the AIM activities in 2012. We cannot imagine the AIM functioning without the assistance of those who are not indifferent to the lives and issues of foreign nationals in the CR and who are willing to give them their time voluntarily and free of charge. The AIM volunteers are people of all age groups and education levels who assist us by accompanying out clinents/foreigners to appointments with authorities or doctors; they help foreign nationals learn Czech or help out with paperwork in the office, with social media, graphic design, website editation or promotion and distribution of flyers. They are of great help in particular at festivals, conferences, round tables and other meetings with the public and clients where they provide the necessary assistance with the preparation and organisation of the events. Volunteers also help monitor the situation of human rights in the countries of origin of our clients or conduct various text researches.

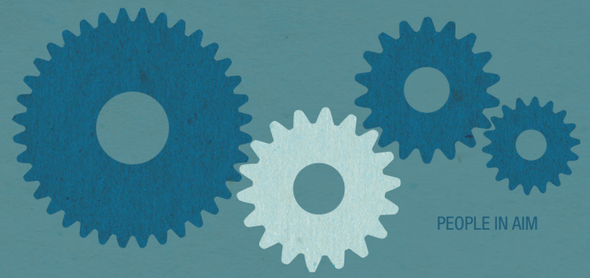
Everyone can join the AIM as a volunteer; all you need is to want to learn new things and not to be afraid to use your skills. Work with people from various parts of the world may be a good personal challenge, getting to know other cultures and ways of life, use of information or ways of acting. We can learn that there is not a single possible and correct way of understanding or grasping things. You can help our clients find a joint way of living together in the Czech Republic by becoming their guide supporting their integration while preserving cultural diversity – if you wish to get to know and enrich each other. More on the options how to join the AIM activities can be found on our website www.migrace.com in the section Cooperate.

Besides volunteers, the AIM was also assisted in its activities by trainees from the College of Social Work CARITAS and other schools in 2012. Having worked in our organisation, they gained their obligatory practical work experience or enhanced their practical knowledge or skills acquired in their study programmes related more to the issue of migration, law or social work.

TOGETHER FOR FOREIGNERS

Implementation period: 1 January 2012 – 31 December 2012
Supported by the Ministery of Interior

The project aimed at supporting the voluntary service at the AIM. Volunteers performed all activities specified in the chapter Volunteering and we paid the attention to the fact that both the needs of the organisation and the expectations of volunteers of possible work in non-profit sector will meet. An agreement on performance of volunteering activity is concluded with the AIM volunteers, defining the collaboration of the volunteer and the organisation. All volunteers are insured by the National Volunteering Centre HESTIA.



PEOPLE IN AIM

EMLOYEES IN AIM

Directors

Magda Faltová, director
Mgr. Pavla Hradečná, programm director

Legal department

Mgr. Klára Holíková, lawyer
Mgr. Vendula Manišovská, lawyer
Mgr. Alexandra Trochtová, lawyer
Mgr. Hana Dessie, lawyer

Social department

Mgr. Pavel Duba, head of social department
Michaela Schifflerová, social worker
Mgr. Sylva Hampalová, social worker
Tamara Akulasvili, social worker

Experts

Mgr. Eva Valentová, expert on international cooperation & project coordinator
Mgr. Kateřina Dederová, coordinator of volunteers & Public Relations
Ing. Petr Veselý, financal manager
Mgr. Šárka Zelenková, expert on foreign issues
PhDr. Marie Jelínková, PhD., sociologist
Petra Ezzeddine, PhD., expert on equal opportunities

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Ing. Růžena Kulhánková, auditor

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FINANCIAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT

American Chance Casinos
Assessment Systems
Bio Oko
Bohuslavová Radka
Brož Jan
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Česká televize
Dobiáš Petr
Faltovi Michal a Václava
Gál Branislav
Galerie Rudolfinum
Hejná Běla
Katsuya Soda
Konečná Jana
Král Ondřej
Majerčík Lubomír
Moree Dana
Nakladatelství Argo
Pokorný Lukáš
Sans & Serif
Techsoup Česká republika

VOLUNTEERS AND SYMPATHIZERS

Dena Arya
Zuzana Babjaková
Ljudmila Vladimírovna Babijová
Renata Bertolino
Mirka Bukovinska
Iulia Crisan
Barbora Černochová
Jakub Čížek
Inga Dremlyuk
Joana Drozdz
Renata Fojtíková
Kateřina Havlíková
Zuzana Hermannová
Olga Churanova
Iva Kahánková
Marie Karanath
Dáša Klčovská
Kim Leahy
Valentina Lukin (Batueva)
Ludmila Luxová
William Marx
Hana Míková
Markéta Novotná
Lenka Procházková
Iva Racková
Jelena Radičanin
Anna Rezková
Daria Sandul
Petra Svobodová
Soňa Toufarová
Sárka Ulčáková
Nicole Vallejosová
Karolína Vocetková
Margareta Vojtková
Ewelina Wrzosek
Iva Zahálková
Jana Žalská

INTERNS

Zuzana Antalová, CARITAS – College of Social Work Olomouc
Eliška Vrbková, CARITAS – College of Social Work Olomouc
Kateřina Němcová, Social Pedagogy of the Charles University Prague
Markéta Novotná, International Politics and Diplomacy, University of Economics Prague
Students of the Institute of Translation Studies of the Faculty of Arts of the Charles University Prague
Students of the Legal clinic of the Faculty of Law, Carles University Prague
Rebecca Kulik, Grinnel College, USA

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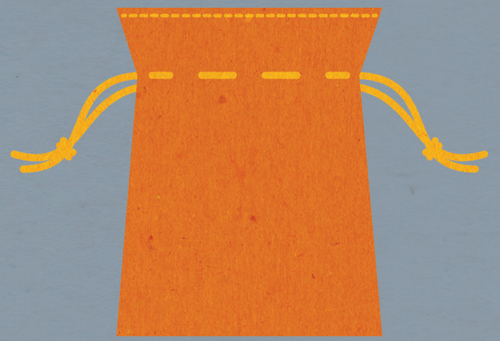
Jan Látal
Lenka Martinková
Marek Procházka
Jan Tlapák
Jan Žaloudek
Lada Weissová
VH Travel
Vital Catering



FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT

OPERATING SUBSIDIES IN 2012 (IN CZK)

NAME OF THE DONOR	AMOUNT IN CZK
Operating subsidies ESF – HREOP	5,089,842.95
Operating subsidies EIF	1,366,176.56
Operating subsidies EUF	244,510.37
Operating subsidies MLSA	150,000.00
Operating subsidies MCCP	150,000.00
Operating subsidies EPIM	108,949.66
Operating subsidies US Embassy	59,000.00
Operating subsidies OSF	44,795.80
Operating subsidies MI	4,808.00
TOTAL	**7,218,083.34**

EXPENSES	AMOUNT IN TH. CZK
Materials consumed	103
Travel expenses	89
Other services	1 820
Salaries	3 966
Social and health Insurance	1 320
Interests	19
Exchange losses	3
Other expenses	57
Provided member contributions	15
TOTAL EXPENSES	**7 392**

REVENUES	AMOUNT IN TH. CZK
Sales of servicies	32
Interest income	5
Other revenues	17
Donations	218
Operating subsidies	7 218
TOTAL REVENUES	**7 490**
DIFFERENCE (PROFIT)	**98**

ASSETS (IN TH. CZK)	STATUS AS OF 1 JAN 2012	STATUS AS OF 31 DEC 2012
Current assets	**0**	**64**
Software	54	55
Accumulated depreciation - software	-54	-55
Patents, licences & trade marks – logotypes	0	64
Tangible assets under CZK 10,000	186	186
Accumulated depreciation tangible assets under CZK 10,000	-186	-186
Current assets	**1,610**	**4,920**
Petty cash	39	58
Bank accounts	973	3,418
Trade debtors	25	25
Advances received	568	1,415
Other receivables	4	4
Other direct taxes	1	
TOTAL ASSETS	**1,610**	**4,984**

LIABILITIES (IN TH. CZK)	STATUS AS OF 1 JAN 2012	STATUS AS OF 31 DEC 2012
Assets	**485**	**552**
Equity	945	1,009
Funds – CASINO	250	155
Profit and loss account	x	98
Profit for the period	52	x
Profit brought forward, loss brought forward	-762	-710
Liabilities	**1,125**	**4,432**
Suppliers	33	60
Advances received	737	491
Payables (creditors) for national social security and health insurance contributions		213
Other direct taxes		62
Liabilities from state budget	352	3,170
Other liabilities – transfer of salary to account	0	383
Accruals and prepayments	3	53
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**1,610**	**4,984**

PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY

CONTACTS

Association for Integration and Migration (AIM)

Senovážná str. 2

110 00 Prague

IČ 26612933

Account No. 182096102/0300 (ČSOB, a.s.)

T: +420 224 224 379

F: +420 224 239 455

E: poradna@refug.cz

W: www.migrace.com

The e-mail of our employees has a standard form

as follows: familyname@refug.cz

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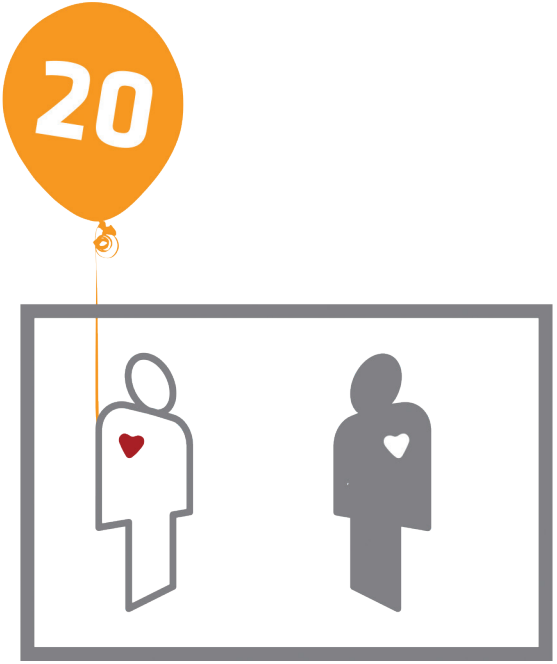

AIM CELEBRATED 20 YEARS