



**Project Title: HE.RE.: "Health and Return of illegal residents: best practice for basic requirements in the provision of health care to returnees (voluntary and forced), with a particular focus on vulnerable groups (women, children and disabled persons) prior to departure.**

**Project Reference: Grant Agreement N° JLS/2006/Return/028**

## **MAPPING EXPERIENCES IN EUROPE RELATED TO THE PROVISION OF HEALTHCARE TO RETURNEES\***

### **CONTEXT**

In the framework of the project "*Health and Return of illegal residents: best practice for basic requirements in the provision of health care to returnees (voluntary and forced), with a particular focus on vulnerable groups (women, children and disabled persons) prior to departure*", and during the kick off meeting held in Verona, 21-22 January 2008, it was agreed to design an ad hoc questionnaire, for mapping experiences in Europe on the provision of healthcare to returnees.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- On 17 April 2007 the European Commission awarded a **Grant Agreement Contract (Ref: Grant Agreement Number – JLS/2006/Return/028)** "Health and return of illegal residents: best practice for basic requirements in the provision of health care to returnees (voluntary and forced), with a particular focus on vulnerable groups (women, children and disabled persons) prior to departure" to Ulss 20 Verona and a group of leading European partners.
- The **specific objective** of the project is to identify Best Practices in the Member States in the provision of health care for returnees, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups (women, children and disabled persons), prior to departure from country of illegal residence.
- One of the activities foreseen by the project is to carry out a **mapping exercise of experiences in Member States and third countries** (e.g. pilot projects) and documents (e.g. protocols) with relation to the provision of healthcare to returnees.

### **PURPOSE OF THE MAPPING EXERCISE:**

1. To collect individual experiences at all levels (local, regional and national) on practices relating to the provision of healthcare to returnees.
2. To consolidate information in an easily consultable inventory to be uploaded on a future website (URL TBD) for consultation.
3. To provide a resource tool for key stakeholders operating in the field of illegal immigration and return.

\* A returnee is a person who undergoes the process of return, defined as follows: "The process of going back to one's country of origin, transit or another third country, including preparation and implementation. The return may be voluntary or enforced." (Ref: Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on a Community Return Policy on Illegal Residents) COM(2002) 564 final

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**QUESTIONNAIRE  
FOR MAPPING EXPERIENCES IN EUROPE RELATED TO THE PROVISION OF  
HEALTHCARE TO RETURNEES**

**GENERAL QUESTIONS**

1	<b>NAME OF THE IMPLEMENTING ORGANISATION (Institution/Individual) (1)</b>	Estonian Migration Foundation
	<b>CONTACT PERSON (2)</b>	Mr Martin Eber Martin.Eber@migfond.ee
2	<b>ADDRESS</b> (Please provide main address details)	Paavli 1/Kopli 33 10412 Tallinn Estonia
3	<b>WEBSITE OF INSTITUTION/INDIVIDUAL</b>	<a href="http://www.migfond.ee">www.migfond.ee</a>
4	<b>TYPE OF INSTITUTION</b> (please tick most relevant, multiple entries permitted)	<input type="checkbox"/> Academic Institution <input type="checkbox"/> Research Centre/Think Tank/ Policy Institution <input type="checkbox"/> Governmental Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-Governmental Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Non-Governmental Organisation</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)
5	<b>GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE OF INSTITUTION OR INDIVIDUAL</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Global <input type="checkbox"/> Asia <input type="checkbox"/> Middle East and North Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Sub-Saharan Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Americas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Europe</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Specific countries: Please specify

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**QUESTIONS RELATING TO A SPECIFIC ACTION**

6	<b>ACTIVITIES RELATED TO HEALTH and RETURN:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the issue of health and return (forced and voluntary) an issue for your organization/government/institution”?</li> <li>- Is there legislation in your country which lays down the procedures for returning illegal residents to their country of origin and if yes, is there any reference to healthcare in such legislation?</li> <li>- Did you experience problems with health related issues when returning third country nationals? If yes, which are the most striking ones?</li> <li>- Which countries of return are in this respect the most problematic and why?</li> </ul>	<p>The issue of health questions in process of return is not prevalent for Estonian Migration Foundation.</p> <p>There is legislation in Estonia for the procedures for returning illegal residents to their country of origin and there are references to healthcare for time being when illegal immigrant is detained before expulsion.</p> <p>Estonian Migration Foundation has had no health related problems in returning third country nationals.</p>
7	<b>TYPE OF ACTION (3)</b>	<p>Estonian Migration Foundation has helped illegal residents with providing information and counselling, also financial aid upon exiting country.</p>
8	<b>NAME OF PARTNER ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED (4)</b>	<p>Ministry of Interior, the founder of Estonian Migration Foundation – is funding the return support activities.  Estonian Citizenship and Migration Board – is organizing the documents for those who don't have them.  Estonian Board of Border guard – is organizing the expulsion of expelled migrants.</p>
9	<b>RESOURCES (5)</b>	<p>Estonian State Budget, European Refugee Fund (until now), European Return Fund (in the future)</p>
10	<b>INITIATION (6)</b>	<p>Estonian Migration Foundations' involvement in voluntary and forced return of illegal migrants is assigned by the Estonian Ministry of Interior which is the executor of the rights of the founder of the foundation.</p>
11	<b>DATE AND DURATION (7)</b>	<p>Estonian Migration Foundation was founded on 10.06.1992 and has supporting return of both legal and illegal migrants since then.</p>
12	<b>DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION (8)</b>	<p>Estonian Migration Foundation has helped illegal residents mainly by providing them travel tickets to country of origin and money to survive the first weeks, also some counselling of what to do before and after</p>

		<p>leaving.          Illegal migrant applies for the financial support while when he/she has received the precept to leave from the Estonian Citizenship and Migration Board, but is leaving voluntarily, or in case of expulsion when being detained in the expulsion center of Estonian Citizenship and Migration Board. Estonian Migration Foundation receives the application and other supporting documents, analyzes these, consults with other institutions, if needed, and if the documents and application is correct, material support allocated either to bank account of the applicant, in cash or in bank check. During all the return process, social counselling and guidance is possible.</p>
13	<b>KEY PROBLEMS/CHALLENGES/CONSTRAINTS (9)</b>	<p>Obtaining documents for illegal residents to exit Estonia may take on some occasions lot of time, mainly because of lack of willingness of the illegal resident to co-operate with authorities.</p> <p>The procedure of providing support to illegal residents to leave country voluntarily is in the Estonian legislation inadequately.</p>
14	<b>REFERENCE DOCUMENTS (10)</b>	<p>Aliens Act, Act on Granting International Protection to Aliens, Obligation to Leave and Prohibition on Entry Act -  <a href="http://www.legaltext.ee/en/andmebaas/ava.asp?m=022">http://www.legaltext.ee/en/andmebaas/ava.asp?m=022</a>          Application and Procedure for Migration Support, Estonian Migration Foundation          Principles of migration support, Estonian Migration Foundation</p> <p>European Migration Network Research Study III- Return – Estonian National Report:  <a href="http://www.migfond.ee/user_upload/25_09_2006_final_of_return_emn">http://www.migfond.ee/user_upload/25_09_2006_final_of_return_emn</a></p>

**Notes**


- (1) Please indicate the name of the implementing organisation.
- (2) Please indicate the name and contact information of the contact person for the action.
- (3) Please indicate the type of action (individual experience) that has been undertaken (e.g. information campaign, mediation, accompanying of returnees).
- (4) Please indicate the name of partner organisations involved and specific nature of the partnership – if appropriate.
- (5) Please indicate the source of funding of the action.
- (6) Please indicate whether the action was due to the initiative of the implementing organisation or whether another organisation (e.g. Government) was the initiating party.
- (7) Please indicate commencement date and duration of the action.
- (8) Please describe the type of action that has been undertaken. (max 250 words)
- (9) Please list problems/challenges/constraints associated with the action.
- (10) Please list and provide (if possible) any relevant reference/resource documents.

Signature

Date

26.03.2009

According to the Italian law 196/2003 and EC regulation Directive 95/46/EC, I freely give my consent to Ulss 20 Verona, as the entrusted organisation for the treatment of personal/institutional data, to use any information provided only for those purposes strictly connected with activities of the mapping exercise within the legislative, statutory and contractual provisions of both the Italian and the EC framework.



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Signature

26.03.2009

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Date