

REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE FOR MIGRANTS

under the Frontex Joint
Reintegration Services



ENGLISH VERSION

We are here to support you

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF VOLUNTARY RETURN?

We understand that returning to your country of origin might be difficult. We are here to support you. We can help you prepare for the journey and inform you about the opportunities you have once you arrive.

If you have decided to return voluntarily or received a return decision from the Member State's national authorities, you may be eligible to receive assistance to reintegrate back into the society of your home country. Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, has developed a programme called **Joint Reintegration Services**, that engages with civil society organisations in your home country. These organisations are experienced in offering reintegration assistance and stand ready to support you as you make a fresh start back home.

RETURNING MAY SEEM COMPLEX. IT CAN BRING UP A LOT OF QUESTIONS AND CAUSE ANXIETY. TO SUPPORT YOU IN FINDING THE ANSWERS, SPECIALISED STAFF SUCH AS RETURN AND REINTEGRATION COUNSELLORS WILL BE AT YOUR DISPOSAL. THEY WILL WALK YOU THROUGH THE LEGAL, ADMINISTRATIVE, AND PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF RETURN AND REINTEGRATION, GUIDING YOU TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES FOR YOUR FUTURE.

If you need special care, for example, if you are an unaccompanied minor or a pregnant woman, if you were a victim of human trafficking, or if you have medical issues or disabilities, or you are departing with children, please notify your Return and Reintegration Counsellor. The Counsellor will make sure that any relevant personal condition or circumstance will be taken into account to make it fit better to your specific type of reintegration support.

DO I QUALIFY FOR REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE?

You can receive reintegration assistance if:

- a. **You have not yet received a final negative decision** on your request for stay, legal residence or/and international protection (asylum), and you decide to return. In that case we speak about **voluntary return**.
- b. **You have received a final negative decision**, and/or a so called 'return decision', which sets a deadline within which you have to leave the territory of the Member State. You took the decision to return to your country of origin. In that case we speak about voluntary departure. The national authorities of the European country where you are residing will inform you about the possibility of receiving reintegration assistance and the deadline within which you have to leave the country.

IF YOU ENJOY THE RIGHT TO STAY, LEGAL RESIDENCE AND/OR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION IN THE TERRITORY OF AN EU MEMBER STATE, YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE.

- c. **You have received a return decision**, as explained under b, and you have not chosen to depart within the set deadline (voluntary departure). In this case the return decision becomes enforceable, and you accept the consequences of being returned by force.

Please note that EU Member States are responsible for determining whether you are eligible or not for reintegration assistance, according to their national legislation, when submitting applications for Joint Reintegration Services.

WHAT TYPES OF REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE ARE AVAILABLE?

Joint Reintegration Services comprise two types of assistance:

Short-term assistance: Upon arrival, you may be provided with immediate support for the first few days in the form of airport pick-up, short term accommodation, medical assistance, onward transport, family reunification and limited financial support.

Long-term assistance: A reintegration plan can be developed for a period of up to 12 months. Your Return and Reintegration Counsellor in the host country and our organisation in your country of origin will discuss with you the best options and agree on the implementation once you are back in your country of origin. Examples of long-term reintegration assistance include:

LONG-TERM HOUSING AND RELATED COSTS

REGULAR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

EDUCATION (SCHOOLING AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING)

JOB COUNSELLING AND ASSISTANCE IN ACCESSING THE LABOUR MARKET

ASSISTANCE IN SETTING UP A SMALL BUSINESS

FAMILY REUNIFICATION

LEGAL COUNSELLING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

In both cases, you will be provided with specialised support from the Reintegration Partner, who will monitor your reintegration plan and may also help by referring you to other organisations.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM MY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION COUNSELLOR?

During one-on-one counselling sessions with a return counsellor, you will receive useful information about your possibilities of return and the options for support and reintegration assistance. Your Counsellor is trained to support you and can answer all the questions that you might have. You can ask your Return and Reintegration Counsellor at any time what are your rights in relation with your application. During a counselling session you can request an interpreter if you do not feel comfortable speaking the same language as the counsellor.

If you express interest in receiving reintegration assistance, your Counsellor needs to collect important information to process your application. You will be requested to provide information about your identity documents, family members and their possible contact details and destination. The information provided will be collected in accordance with data protection legal requirements. Please do not hesitate to inform your Counsellor of any special needs.

During your application you will be asked to fill in a form and to give Frontex permission to handle your personal data. This information is needed for the Reintegration Partner to confirm your identity and will only be used for this purpose, in accordance with the European General Data Protection Regulation

NOTES

WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM THE (LOCAL) REINTEGRATION PARTNER?

In your country of origin, the Reintegration Partner will take care of your case. If you asked for short-term assistance, the partner may welcome you at the airport and support you with the most urgent needs. If you have chosen also to get assistance for a longer period, our reintegration partner will stay in contact with you, and you have the possibility to get answers to your questions. You are always very welcome to contact our partner. Please be proactive in contacting the Reintegration Partner in case of any questions or doubts.



IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

The Reintegration Partner or its local partners will assist you during office hours.

Abusive and/or disruptive behaviour towards the Reintegration Partner or a local partner is unacceptable.

The Reintegration Partner cannot solve all problems you may face; they are limited to delivering the assistance that was agreed earlier.

You need an identification document to start the application.

You need to sign the consent form to finalise the application process.

PLEASE CONTACT THE REINTEGRATION PARTNER IN YOUR COUNTRY

All the information can be found on the following website →

