



# ERIAS

## European Refugees Integration Action Scheme

### Project activities in Bulgaria



# Project Partners in Bulgaria



# OBJECTIVES in Bulgaria

Development of extended integration package for employers willing to employ migrants in compliance with the current Bulgarian and European legal framework.

Development of training module for migrants how to start a business in Bulgaria as well as on entrepreneurship, together with general information for migrants “First steps in BG”.



# ACTIVITIES 1-6

1. Research and analysis of the migrant situation in Bulgaria
2. Survey on the needs of the employers of skilled workers
3. Development of identification grid for selection of the target groups
4. Adaptation of the Integration check list for businesses
5. “Guide for employers”
6. Workshops for employers “How to employ migrants from third countries”



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# ACTIVITIES 7-13

7. Help desk for entrepreneurs
8. Training of TCNs in Sofia, Stara Zagora, Haskovo /Bulgarian language, Entrepreneurship, How to be employed in Bulgaria
9. Brochure for TCNs “First steps in Bulgaria”
10. Consultancy services for TCNs
11. Final conference
12. Communication and result dissemination activities
13. Video



# ERIAS pledge at the First Global Refugees Forum 2019



“Integration of refugees in the labour market through the implementation of the ERIAS Programme”.

- over 770 pledges
- 3,000 participants, including refugees
- 750 delegations.

Scope of the engagements: from employment, to places in schools for refugee children, new government policies, solutions like resettlement, clean energy, infrastructure and better support for host communities and countries, etc.

The European Chamber (CCI) network, under EUROCHAMBRES’ coordination, is committed to contribute to the economic integration of refugees through its action programme entitled [“European Refugees Integration Action Scheme”- ERIAS](#).





# ERIAS Events





# Workshops for companies – how to employ third countries nationals



11.12.2019 - Sofia



11.12.2019 - Haskovo



29.01.2020 – Stara Zagora

- 3 workshops
- 122 participants
- 4 skilled lecturers
- Vivid discussion





# Training on getting employed in Bulgaria



**31.17.2020 – Haskovo**



**1.10.2021 – Stara Zagora**

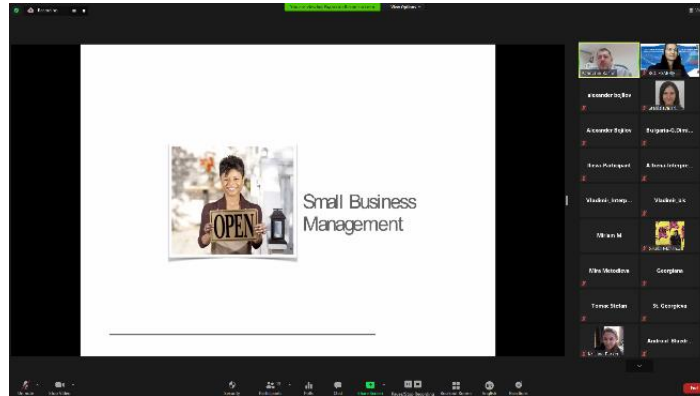


**20.07.2021 – Sofia**

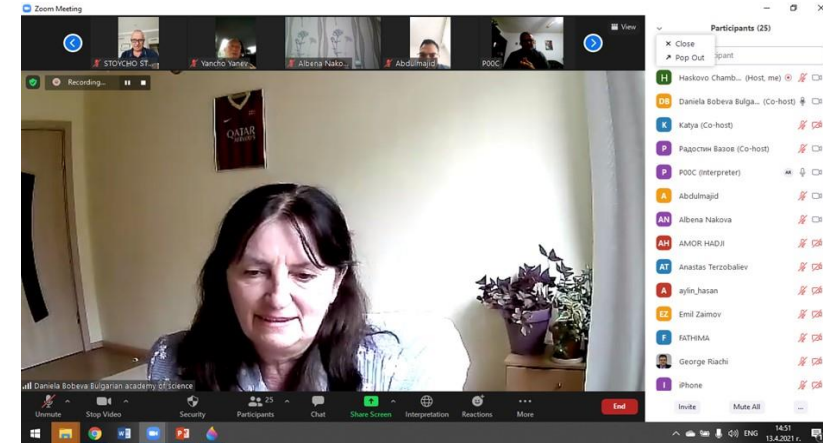
- 3 seminars
- 62 participants
- Excellent feedback
- Useful information on registration in the Labor Office, the necessary documents, regulations, professional qualification procedures and job search opportunities.



# Training in Entrepreneurship and how to start a business in Bulgaria



**21.05.2021 - Sofia**



**13.04.2021 - Haskovo**



**1.11.2021 – Stara Zagora**

- 3 seminars
- 63 participants
- 3 lecturers
- Follow up consultancy





# Bulgarian Language Courses

64 TCNs took part in the courses.



## Feedback from trainees participated in the Bulgarian Language Training in Stara Zagora:

- “The training given my Bulgarian a significant boost, allowing me to form sentences, understand when someone speaks to me, develop decent conversational abilities” - Tata Mohamed (Syria)
- “The Bulgarian language training will help me to be prepared and to communicate with the local people. Besides learning the Bulgarian language I also learned the Bulgarian culture” - Malek Jumaa (Syria)



“It definitely helped me to enhance my Bulgarian language skills by introducing several vocabularies that I can use in my future job.” - Anna Shmileva (Russia)





## Final conference of the ERIAS project



The online final conference of the ERIAS (European Refugees Integration Action Scheme) project was held, during which information was presented on the goals and results of the project in Bulgaria for the integration of third country nationals into the labour market through enhanced cooperation and mobilization of employers, social and economic partners.

The event was officially opened by Tsvetan Simeonov, President of BCCI, who expressed his satisfaction with the work of the Chamber and its partner organizations to build a cooperation network for the integration of refugees and third country nationals. He said that the topic of integration of refugees is especially relevant within the EU and coordination between institutions is of particular importance.

Gabriela Dimitrova, Director "International Cooperation and International Organizations" at BCCI and Project Manager for Bulgaria, presented the project activities and the achieved results, including the publication of a handbook for employers, a brochure for third country nationals and refugees "First Steps in Bulgaria", organization of entrepreneurship seminars and trainings, organization of Bulgarian language courses, etc.

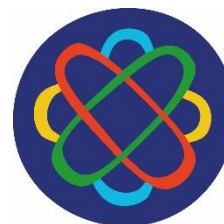
Representatives of the regional chambers of commerce in Haskovo and Stara Zagora, project partners, made a detailed presentation of the trainings held in the respective regions and shared observations from their activities.

Elena Marinotti, representative of Formaper, the project coordinator for Italy, presented the results of the project in the partner countries: Italy, Spain, Greece and France. As part of the project 4 skills assessments, 25 trainings, 3 counseling and guidance activities were conducted, and over 500 companies were informed and invited to contribute to the activities through 8 seminars, 2 surveys, about 40 meetings and numerous individual contacts.

Representatives of UNHCR Bulgaria, the Bulgarian Red Cross, Caritas Sofia, Sofia Development Association, and "Mission Wings" Foundation reviewed the process of integration of refugees and third country nationals in Bulgaria, the role of employment for labour market integration and the conditions for hiring refugees and third country nationals in Bulgaria. The procedure for obtaining a work permit in Bulgaria was presented as well as the documents for starting work, cooperation with employers, etc.

During the conference, stories about the successful integration of refugees and third country nationals into the Bulgarian labour market were shared.

- 17 November 2021
- Virtual event
- 78 participants
- Partnerships
- Common goals



# ERIAS

# Supporting Actions for entrepreneurship and for employability

- Consultancy services for TCNs
- Joined efforts with partners for providing employability
- Connecting interested parties
- Active social media relations
- Guide for employers
- Brochure First steps in BG
- Integration check list



# THANK YOU!

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