



International Food Fest, 2025

POLICY GOAL 6: TO PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF THE BENEFITS OF INTEGRATION AMONG BOTH MIGRANTS AND THE LOCAL POPULATION THROUGH EDUCATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING INITIATIVES.

Consultations are underway to ensure representation is factual, accessible, and equal. Training for media professionals on diversity and anti-discrimination is planned for 2026.

Monitoring mechanisms are continuously being developed to effectively track progress of the Integration Strategy and Action Plan implementation.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

In 2026, Malta's integration efforts will reach new milestones with support from the SPRING project. The Human Rights Directorate will launch the National Integration Support Centre—a one-stop-shop designed to make essential services more accessible for migrants.

Work will continue to improve the systems and services that matter most: documentation, education, accommodation, health and mental health, labour market rights, and skills development. These actions will help ensure that everyone has the opportunity to participate fully and thrive in Maltese society.

To foster mutual respect and appreciation of integration, the Human Rights Directorate aims to advance education and awareness initiatives for both migrants and the local population.

Research will also remain a priority, with new studies planned to guide and strengthen future integration initiatives.



From Strategy to Action:

Progress in Implementing the Integration Strategy and Action Plan (2025–2030)



POLICY GOAL 1: TO ESTABLISH A ROBUST LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK THAT PRIORITISES AND SUPPORTS INTEGRATION EFFORTS ACROSS ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY.

To ensure integration is mainstreamed across all levels of government, the Human Rights Directorate has set up the Inter-Ministerial Committee for the Mainstreaming of Human Rights. This committee, which first met in October, brings together representatives from all Ministries and relevant entities. Its purpose is to embed human rights and integration principles into government policymaking and ensure a coordinated approach.

The first annual Migration and Integration Conference, titled "Pathways to Belonging: Policy, Partnership, and Practice in Migration and Integration", was held on 12 November 2025. The conference aimed to unify and align migration and integration policies, fostering a collaborative platform for policy development, partnership building, and practical implementation.

Integration efforts are being actively supported through strategic projects and funding initiatives. The Supporting Pre-Integration Governance (SPRING) project, co-funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), plays a key role in advancing integration objectives. Additionally, the Erasmus+ project Connecting through

Adult Community Training (ConnACT) is being implemented to promote inclusive learning and community engagement. Further initiatives are underway to strengthen and expand integration efforts across sectors.

POLICY GOAL 2: TO EMBED INTEGRATION CONSIDERATIONS THROUGH DATA-SHARING AND MAINSTREAMING OF INTEGRATION RELATED SERVICES, ENSURING A COORDINATED AND COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO MIGRANT INTEGRATION.

A new digital I Belong Operating System is being developed to simplify registration, learning, and certification for applicants. By streamlining these processes, the system will foster social inclusion and support Malta's integration framework.

POLICY GOAL 3: TO ENHANCE AND EXPAND INTEGRATION POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THE EVOLVING NEEDS OF MIGRANTS AND FACILITATE THEIR SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION INTO SOCIETY.

Through the ConnACT project, study visits to Italy, Finland, and Malta have identified best practices in integration. These insights will inform a new toolkit tailored to diverse local contexts.



ConnACT Study Visit in Malta, 2025

The I Belong programme continues to grow, with over 500 Stage 1 and 400 Stage 2 graduates in 2025. As Malta's national integration initiative, it helps migrants build language skills, cultural understanding, and a sense of belonging. The I Belong programme is currently being restructured to make it more inclusive, accessible and in-line with the diverse needs of migrant communities.

In line with Malta's Labour Migration Policy, Pre-Departure Integration Measures (PDIMs) are also being developed. These will help inform migrants of their rights, responsibilities, and cultural norms before arrival.



I Belong Graduation, 2025

POLICY GOAL 5: TO FOSTER STRONG, INCLUSIVE, AND COHESIVE COMMUNITIES BY EMPOWERING LOCAL COUNCILS AND STAKEHOLDERS TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN AND SUPPORT INTEGRATION EFFORTS.

Consultation meetings with Regional and Local Councils have identified key areas for improvement to strengthen their role in the integration process. These insights will guide efforts to better equip local stakeholders in supporting migrants throughout their integration journey.

Collaboration between Heritage Malta and the I Belong Programme continues, offering migrants free access to cultural events and guided tours. These activities promote socio-cultural involvement, helping participants connect with Malta's heritage, build community ties, and foster a deeper sense of belonging.

The newly announced Integration and Anti-Racism Consultative Council, launched during the first Migration and Integration Conference, supports migrant-led initiatives that promote community cohesion and inclusive dialogue.

Community engagement is also being strengthened through events like Malta's International Food Fest 2025, which celebrated cultural identities, artistic expression, and connection through cuisine. Ongoing discussions with local community representatives continue to shape future integration initiatives.