

ALBANIA

GOOD PRACTICE OF INTEGRATION OF FOREIGN PEOPLE



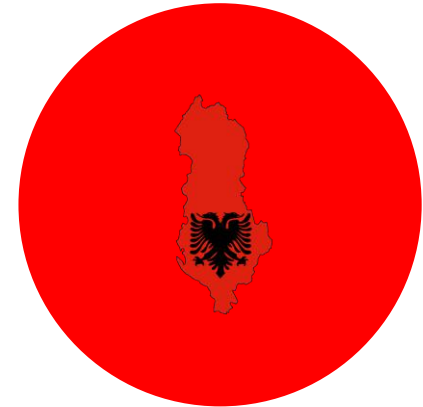
GENERAL INFO REGARDING FOREIGNERS IN ALBANIA



AT THE END OF 2020,
THE NUMBER OF
FOREIGNERS WITH
RESIDENCE PERMITS IN
ALBANIA RESULTED
13,609 INHABITANTS, BY
INCREASING WITH 0.8 %
COMPARED TO 2019.



THE REASON FOR EMPLOYMENT IS THE MAIN
REASON FOR THE RESIDENCE PERMITS OF
FOREIGNERS IN ALBANIA IN 2020, WITH 47.5 %.



RESIDENT FOREIGNERS ORIGINATING FROM
IRAN, ITALY AND TURKEY CONSTITUTE THE
LARGEST NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS WITH
RESIDENCE PERMITS IN ALBANIA IN 2020,
RESPECTIVELY WITH 2,610, 2,067 AND 1,597
INHABITANTS.

Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers assisted by Caritas Albania

87%
male



640
adults

68
minors

13%
female



47
minors

60
adults

The persons come mostly from



FACTS

- Albania currently has one of the world's highest emigration rates, relative to its population, at -3.3 migrants per 1,000 people
- Despite the serious and ongoing problem of political corruption, as an EU-candidate country, Albania has put much effort into aligning its policies on migration and asylum to international standards.
- As of September 2021, Albania hosts 115 refugees and 1,528 persons at risk of statelessness. Since 2017 Albania has witnessed a stark increase in the number of refugees and migrants arriving in mixed movements. An estimated 9,000 individuals arrived at the border from January to October 2021.
- Foreigners residing in Albania include **economic immigrants, students, family members, employees in humanitarian and religious activities, refugees, and asylum seekers**. Immigrants have settled mainly in Tirana (67 percent) and other big cities such as Durrës (15 percent), Shkodër (8 percent), and Vlorë (5 percent). Many are employed in construction, trade, and other services.



EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK

- Albania will have to focus its policies and actions on immigration, where the main focus should be on the integration policies of foreigners in our country. This is also a condition and obligation to be realized in the framework of the European integration process.
- Low taxes and simplified procedures have made Albania a very attractive country for foreign investors, especially those in the automotive field. (Italian investors mostly)
- Permanent residence, labor market and anti-discrimination policies are assessed as *semi-favorable*. (the period of stay in Albania before the foreigner has the right to apply for a residence permit is a minimum of 5 years)
- With regard to anti-discrimination policies, although there is a good law and authority specifically for the fight against discrimination such as the Commissioner for Anti-Discrimination, the law does not specifically provide for protection against discrimination on the grounds of nationality or nationality, only on ethnicity, religion and race.
- Education is assessed as somewhat *unfavorable*, where the biggest problems are especially the access of foreigners to higher education and the lack of support for schools to be open to include foreign children.



GOOD PRACTICE – AFGANS IN ALBANIA

Mustafa: Now, in addition to housework, food care, we also have a paid job. But it does not matter the money, but **the hospitality that Albanians have given us as refugees.** Our grief is great, I lost my father, the Taliban killed him, while the family remained in Afghanistan.

Negib: I would stay in Albania because I have my job here on what I studied. Maybe in the USA I would not work in the profession and I do not like that. **I love my job and Albania is making it possible for me.**



CEO: Somehow, **when we emigrated we were more or less like them,** left to the mercy of fate. I was convinced from the beginning when I saw the news that when they were coming, giving them an opportunity . **I have done neither more nor less than what others have done for me when I was an immigrant 30 years ago.**