



1. Integration assistance

A foreigner with a refugee status or enjoying subsidiary protection is granted assistance for no longer than 12 months in order to support their integration with the society, in accordance with and on terms specified in the Act of 12 March 2004 on social assistance.

Integration assistance is granted upon a request submitted through the agency of a poviast family assistance centre to the starost who exercises authority over the foreigner's place of residence. A minor foreigner residing on the territory of the Republic of Poland without a statutory representative is granted integration assistance by the starost who exercises authority over the minor's place of residence.

The request for integration assistance should be submitted by the foreigner within 60 days from being granted a refugee status or subsidiary protection. The request also applies to minor children and the spouse of the foreigner if they have also been granted the refugee status or subsidiary protection.

Integration assistance encompasses: financial benefits, payment of health insurance premiums, social work, specialist guidance, information and support in communication with other institutions and other activities that support the process of foreigner's integration.

Foreigners who are spouses of Polish citizens are not entitled to integration assistance.

2. Data confidentiality and protection against expulsion

The foreigner's details based on which it is possible to determine that the international protection procedure has been concluded, the foreigner has been granted the refugee status or subsidiary protection may not be made available nor acquired from institutions supposed to persecute or cause a severe harm.

The foreigner who has the status of a refugee or who enjoys subsidiary protection cannot be obliged by decision to leave the territory of the Republic of Poland or to return, without depriving them of that status or protection unless circumstances specified in Article 32(1) or Article 33(2) of the Geneva Convention arise.

3. Documents

A foreigner who is granted the refugee status is presented with a travel document provided for in the Geneva Convention, which is valid for 2 years from the date of issue and a residence card valid for 3 years from the date of issue.

A foreigner who is granted subsidiary protection is presented with a residence card valid for 2 years from the date of issue.

The travel document provided for in the Geneva Convention and the residence card are issued after collecting biometric data of the foreigner. The travel document provided for in the Geneva Convention and/or the residence card are issued and replaced by the Head of the Office for Foreigners. The documents must be collected in person.

A foreigner enjoying subsidiary protection may also apply for a Polish travel document for foreigners in accordance with and on terms specified in the Act of 12 December 2013 on foreigners. A foreigner with the refugee status or enjoying subsidiary protection may also apply for a temporary Polish travel document for foreigners in accordance with and on terms specified in the said Act.

4. Other rights and responsibilities

The Head of the Office for Foreigners ensures that social assistance and health care are provided to individuals with the refugee status or enjoying subsidiary protection for a period of 2 months from the date of service of the final decision in the asylum proceedings.

A foreigner with the refugee status or enjoying subsidiary protection may enjoy the rights of foreigners who have been granted a temporary residence permit unless the Act on granting protection to foreigners within the territory of the Republic of Poland or other acts provide otherwise.

These rights, granted in accordance with and on terms specified in separate regulations, include: access to the educational system, access to the labour market, right to protection against unemployment, right to conduct business activity, right to social assistance services and family benefits, right to social pension and right to health care services financed with public funds. These rights, in general, correspond to the rights enjoyed by the citizens of the Republic of Poland.

5. Unaccompanied minor

In case the refugee status or subsidiary protection is granted to an unaccompanied minor, the Head of the Office, taking into account the prohibition of art. 9, takes action in order to find his or her relatives.

6. Deprivation of the refugee status and subsidiary protection

A foreigner with the refugee status may be deprived of this status in accordance with and on terms specified in the Act of 13 June 2003 on granting protection to foreigners within the territory of the Republic of Poland. In such a case the foreigner is obliged to return their residence card and travel document provided for in the Geneva Convention to the Head of the Office immediately after the service of the final decision on that matter, yet no later than within 14 days from the day when the relevant decision has become final.

A foreigner enjoying subsidiary protection may be deprived of this protection in accordance with and on terms specified in the Act of 13 June 2003 on granting protection to foreigners within the territory of the Republic of Poland. In such a case the foreigner is obliged to return their residence card to the Head of the Office immediately after the service of the final decision on that matter, yet no later than within 14 days from the day when the relevant decision has become final.

The decision of granting the refugee status or subsidiary protection ends by law on the day of acquiring the citizenship of Poland.