

Informational Report on the Implementation of the Migrant Integration Strategy in the City of Trnava 2025 – 2035

2025 – 2035

**TRNAVA**


ConnectT
Support Centre
for Foreigners

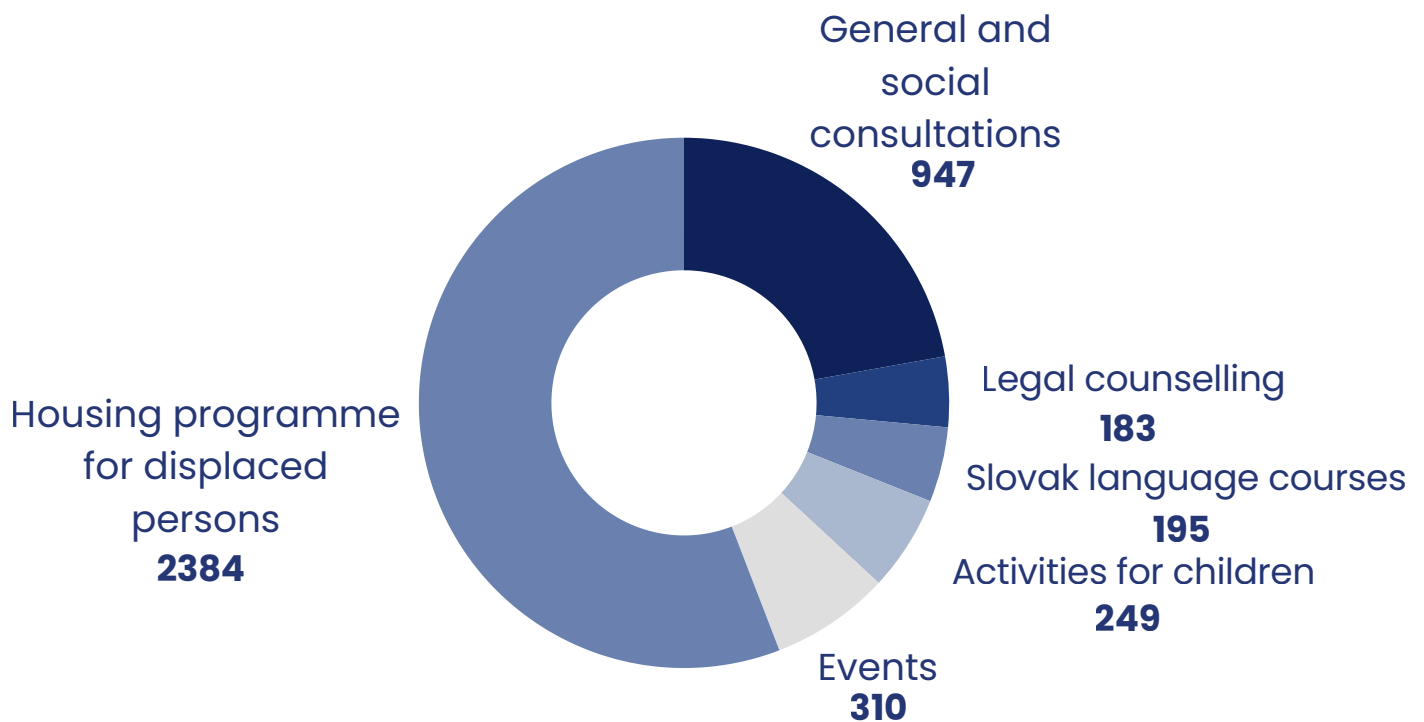
Introduction

In October 2025, the Trnava City Council approved the Migrant Integration Strategy in the City of Trnava 2025 – 2035. The strategy is the result of a 13-month participatory process, which engaged 98 migrants from 11 countries and 25 experts from public administration, education, the private sector, and non-profit organisations. The ConnectT Support Centre for Foreigners (Department of Social Affairs, Trnava City Office) acts as the guarantor of the strategy's implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. This informational report is the first annual report under the monitoring and evaluation mechanism set out in the strategy. It contains the Action Plan for 2026 – 2027 (Annex 1), a data overview of the migrant population for 2022 – 2025 (Annex 2), an overview of ConnectT activities in 2025, and plans for the upcoming period.

NUMBER OF SERVICES AND CLIENTS IN 2025

Total number of clients
4268

88,3% ↑
compared to 2024



Number of SK language courses

12

Number of events

30

**Migrant Integration Strategy in the City
of Trnava 2025 – 2035 approved**

The ConnecTT Support Centre provides support for the integration of foreigners in the city of Trnava. The centre's activities focus primarily on removing practical barriers in the areas of access to services, employment, education, and legal certainty.

ConnecTT mainly provides counselling, educational, and assistance services that respond to clients' specific life situations. Its activities also include cooperation with public administration institutions and other relevant stakeholders.

Language Education (Slovak Language for Migrants)

Language education is a fundamental tool for the integration of foreigners. The courses are differentiated according to the language level and needs of participants and focus on practical use in everyday life and the work environment.

The courses are intended for:

- Slavic-speaking foreigners,
- non-Slavic-speaking foreigners who need intensive language support,
- foreign workers who work shifts,
- international university students in Trnava.

In 2025, the capacity was expanded to include intensive courses for holders of temporary protection, held three times a week, with the aim of accelerating their language adaptation.

Conversational Activities

ConnecTT regularly organizes conversation evenings featuring moderated discussions in both Slovak and English. The topics reflect the everyday life of foreigners in the city and cultural differences. The aim is to support language skills and intercultural understanding.

Art Therapy for Adult Migrants

As part of additional integration support for people with temporary protection, ConnecTT runs art therapy group sessions. The aim of the activity is to support the processing of emotional experiences and to strengthen the sense of safety in the integration process. The sessions are thematically focused. Through artistic techniques (painting, drawing, work with clay, etc.), participants reflect on their inner experiences, work with memories of their country of origin, and identify personal sources of support.

Legal counselling

The ConnecTT Support Centre for Foreigners provides legal counselling for foreigners in cooperation with the Human Rights League (HRL). The aim of this service is to provide professional and comprehensible support to foreigners in addressing issues related to residence, employment law and social matters that directly affect their successful integration into society.

The counselling focuses mainly on:

- issues related to residence status and its renewal,
- employment relationships and working conditions,
- orientation in the legal obligations and rights of foreigners,
- support in communication with public administration institutions.

The service is provided with an emphasis on an individual approach and respect for the cultural and linguistic needs of clients. Legal counselling significantly contributes to the prevention of social exclusion.

Activities aimed at explaining the broader social context of migration and integration at the local level

In 2025, ConnecTT implemented several community, discussion-based and participatory activities aimed at raising public awareness of migration and integration issues in the local context.

The activity Co-creation of Measures for the Strategy for the Integration of Foreigners, held on 5 August 2025, created space for open dialogue between foreigners, experts, representatives of public administration, the private sector and academia. The discussion Why Here? Why Now?, held on 7 April 2025, focused on explaining the broader social context of migration and identifying the challenges and opportunities associated with integration processes at the local level. The moderated discussion included expert panellists who supported an inclusive and factual exchange of views and encouraged active audience participation. A special role was also played by ConnecTT's participation in a panel discussion held as part of the international scientific conference of UCM titled PUBLICY 2025: Participation – Bridges between the Public, Politics and Practice. The discussion focused on the process of developing the Strategy for the Integration of Foreigners in the City of Trnava and on participatory approaches to public policy-making, involving foreigners themselves as active stakeholders. The implemented activities contributed to strengthening awareness among both the general and professional public of the importance of the integration of foreigners and its impact on local communities. Through media coverage and communication on social media, awareness of ConnecTT's activities and of the topic of foreigner integration in the City of Trnava increased.

Educational support for children and young people

In 2025, ConnecTT implemented supplementary education at Jána Bottu Primary School in Trnava, focused on mathematics tutoring for pupils with temporary protection status. The activity was carried out in cooperation with the school's teachers and responded to the need to support pupils who face a language barrier when studying in Slovak.

Educational support was provided in smaller groups, with an emphasis on an individual approach and on adapting the content and pace of teaching to the pupils' abilities and needs. The tutoring focused on strengthening basic mathematical skills, improving understanding of the curriculum and providing systematic preparation for school responsibilities.

The aim of the activity was to improve pupils' school performance in a key subject, strengthen their self-confidence and motivation to learn, and support their more successful integration into the Slovak education system.

At the same time, the centre also focused on activities for foreign university students in the city by deepening cooperation with universities. It provided informational workshops at each university in the city for foreign students during the adaptation week at the beginning of the academic year. The workshops were implemented in cooperation with a lawyer from a partner organisation and focused on helping students orient themselves in the educational and legal system of the Slovak Republic.

Counselling and accompanying services for foreigners (orientation in the system, employment, housing, schools and social security)

ConnecTT provides individual counselling in a hybrid format – through personal consultations at the centre, telephone and e-mail communication and, in justified cases, also through field visits to clients with limited mobility.

The counselling focuses on removing administrative and information barriers in various areas of clients' lives, particularly in the socio-legal field, housing provision, rental relations, access to the labour market, explanation of employment-related documentation and related matters.

An important part of the activities was cooperation with public administration institutions, primarily the Trnava Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family and the Social Insurance Agency. The support included assistance in claiming social benefits and allowances, interpreting during social investigations, language assistance and the provision of information on clients' rights and obligations. The activities also included the distribution of up-to-date information materials reflecting legislative and systemic changes.

PLANS FOR THE UPCOMING PERIOD

1 Action Plan for 2026–2027

Following the approval of the Strategy for the Integration of Foreigners in the City of Trnava for 2025–2035, an Action Plan for 2026–2027 was prepared. The Action Plan translates the strategic objectives and measures into concrete activities with measurable indicators, semi-annual milestones, responsible entities and allocated resources.

The Action Plan includes 17 activities in five thematic areas defined by the Strategy: social affairs, leisure and culture (6 activities), education (5 activities), relationship with the city and access to information (3 activities), volunteering and participation (2 activities), and institutional support and services (1 activity). The implementation of activities is monitored in semi-annual cycles as of 30 June 2026, 31 December 2026 and 30 June 2027.

The Action Plan forms Annex No. 1 to this report.

2 Resource allocation

The implementation of the activities included in the Action Plan is currently secured through external resources under the National Project Integration of Third-Country Nationals, Including Migrants (NP Integration of Third-Country Nationals, Including Migrants, ESF+).

ConnecTT is currently monitoring the preparation of the call for a follow-up national project. The Action Plan for 2026–2027 will form the framework of the application for participation in the forthcoming call. Submitting the application is one of the priorities for the upcoming period.

3 Welcoming Neighbourhoods

The Strategy identified mutual unpreparedness for integration as one of the main trends – the majority population and foreigners live in parallel worlds without everyday contact. This trend is particularly visible in localities with a high concentration of foreigners, where the everyday life of foreigners is often reduced to the trajectory between accommodation facilities, the workplace and shopping.

Street-level data show that the Prednádražie area is one of the most exposed localities. A total of 2,234 foreigners are registered across six streets, representing 16.5% of the total number of foreigners in the city. Temporary residence for the purpose

of employment predominates.

The Action Plan responds to this situation through the Welcoming Neighbourhoods project, which connects five activities of the Action Plan into one integrated framework. Its aim is to create conditions for improving integration and social cohesion at both the local and micro-local levels.

In the first phase, taking place in the first half of 2026, ConnecTT is cooperating with Trnava University in Trnava within the pilot programme Integration Policy Lab. During the ten-week programme, nine sociology and political science students are mapping the situation in the Prednádražie locality from the perspective of both foreign communities and local residents. The output of the first phase will be a proposal of measures based on the collected data (Activity 2.5 – Internship Programme for University Students; Activity 4.2 – Mapping Public Attitudes).

In the second phase, the proposed measures will be presented and co-created at the Multi-sectoral Forum on the Integration of Foreigners in Trnava, with the participation of representatives of foreign communities, employers, public administration and non-governmental organisations (Activity 4.1 – Community Connectors; Activity 1.5 – Support for Work with Foreign Youth).

In the third phase, the implementation of the measures is expected within a multi-sectoral partnership (Activity 1.3 – Memoranda of Cooperation with Employers; Activity 2.2 – Memoranda of Cooperation with Universities). For the implementation of this phase, the city is actively seeking external funding opportunities beyond NP Integration II, particularly from available grant schemes focused on social cohesion and integration at the local level.

Conclusion

In 2025, ConnecTT provided services to 4,268 clients, representing an 88.3% increase compared to the previous year. The City Council approved the Strategy for the Integration of Foreigners in the City of Trnava for 2025–2035, and an Action Plan for 2026–2027 was prepared, containing 17 activities in five thematic areas.

As of 31 December 2025, the number of registered foreigners in the City of Trnava reached 13,512 persons from 98 countries. Over three years, this number has almost doubled. The City of Trnava is therefore moving from the question of whether to address the integration of foreigners to the question of how to address it systematically.

The priorities for the upcoming period include submitting an application for participation in NP Integration II, launching the activities of the Action Plan, and continuing the Welcoming Neighbourhoods project in Prednádražie. At the same time, ConnecTT is actively seeking additional external funding sources beyond the national project.

ConnecTT will report on the implementation of the Action Plan in semi-annual cycles through overviews of indicator fulfilment submitted to the Commission for Social Affairs and Health of the City Council and to the Multi-sectoral Forum on the Integration of Foreigners in Trnava.

Annexes

Annex No. 1: Action Plan for 2026–2027

Annex No. 2: Data Overview of the Number of Foreigners in the City of Trnava for 2022–2025

