

Press Release Published: 15 July 2021

Lithuania to receive immediate operational support from EASO



The European Asylum Support Office (EASO) could deploy up to 50 personnel, both in-country and via remote working, in support of the Lithuanian asylum authorities by the end of the year.

The Executive Director of EASO, **Nina Gregori**, and the Minister of the Interior of Lithuania, **Agnė Bilotaitė**, have signed an Operating Plan on the margins of the Informal Justice and Home Affairs Council meeting held in Brdo, Slovenia.

The Operating Plan was agreed to in a **record short period** following the request of the Lithuanian Authorities in late June. Within days of receiving the request, EASO deployed an assessment team to the country in order to discuss the needs of the Lithuanian counterparts. The Operating Plan, which is EASO's **sixth ongoing operation**, is valid until the end of 2021, but can be renewed or adapted to developing needs thereafter.

Commenting on the new operation, Nina Gregori stated: *“The speed with which we were able to operationalise our support is a testament to the resilience of the Agency in tangibly supporting*

any Member State whenever the need arises. EASO stands fully with Lithuania in light of the current migration challenges and we will immediately begin assisting both the asylum and reception systems. This is another demonstration of what EU solidarity actually means.”

Lithuania has recently begun experiencing a dramatic increase in asylum applications from migrants crossing the border from Belarus. To date, the majority of applicants are Iraqi nationals. EASO will work closely with the national authorities, as well as the European Commission and FRONTEX in order to ensure a seamless and coordinated approach.

EASO to deploy immediate operational support to Lithuania



Assistance to be provided for:



Registration



Asylum
procedure



Reception
capacity



In particular, EASO will provide operational support in the three following areas:

- Enhancing the capacity to **register applications** for international protection;
- Enhancing the capacity to **process asylum applications**, including by conducting interviews and drafting opinions; and
- Enhancing the capacity to manage the **reception** of applicants.

EASO will immediately begin deploying personnel, both in-country and working remotely, and who could reach a complement of **up to 50** by the end of the year.

Any further information may be obtained from the European Asylum Support Office on the following email address: press@easo.europa.eu

EASO planuoja suteikti Lietuvai neatid?liotin? operatyvin? pagalb?

Europos prieglobs?io paramos biuras, siekdamas pad?ti Lietuvos prieglobs?io institucijoms iki met? pabaigos gal?t? paskirti iki 50 darbuotoj?, kurie dirbt? tiek šalyje, tiek nuotoliniu b?du.

Brdo, Slov?nijoje, vykusiame neformaliame Teisingumo ir vidaus reikal? tarybos pos?dyje EASO vykdomoji direktor? **Nina Gregori** ir Lietuvos vidaus reikal? ministr? **Agn? Bilotait?** pasiraš? operatyvin? plan?.

D?l operatyvinio plano susitarta per **rekordiškai trump? laik?**, birželio pabaigoje gavus Lietuvos valdžios institucij? prašym?. Vos gav?s prašym? EASO po keli? dien? ? šal? išsiunt? vertinimo grup? koleg? iš Lietuvos poreikiams aptarti. Operatyvinis planas, kuris yra EASO **šeštoji vykdoma operacija**, galioja iki 2021 m. pabaigos, ta?iau v?liau gali b?ti atnaujintas arba pritaikytas prie kintan?i? poreiki?.

Kalb?dama apie nauj?j? operacij? **Nina Gregori** sak?: „*Taip greitai sudarydami s?lygas naudotis m?s? teikiama pagalba ?rod?me, kad agent?ra geba realiai pad?ti **bet kuriai** valstybei narei vos tik iškilus b?tinybei. EASO visapusiškai palaiko Lietuv?, atsižvelgdamas ? dabartinius migracijos išš?kius, ir nedelsdamas prad?s teikti pagalb? tiek prieglobs?io, tiek pri?mimo sistemoms. Tai dar vienas ?rodymas, k? iš tikr?j? reiškia ES solidarumas.*“

Pastaruoju metu Lietuvoje labai padaug?jo prieglobs?io prašym?, kuriuos teikia sien? kertantys migrantai iš Baltarusijos. Šiuo metu dauguma prašytoj? – Irako pilie?iai. EASO glaudžiai bendradarbiaus su nacionalin? mis valdžios institucijomis, taip pat su Europos Komisija ir FRONTEX, kad užtikrint? skland? ir suderint? poži?r?.

Vis? pirma EASO teiks operatyvin? pagalb? šiose trijose srityse:

- tarptautin?s apsaugos **prašym? registravimo** paj?gum? didinimo;
- **prieglobs?io prašym? nagrin?jimo**, be kita ko, pokalbi? ir nuomoni? rengimo, paj?gum? didinimo;
- prašytoj? **pri?mimo** valdymo paj?gum? didinimo.

EASO nedelsdamas prad?s skirti tiek šalyje, tiek nuotoliniu b?du dirbsian?ius darbuotojus – iki met? pabaigos gal?t? b?ti paskirta **iki 50** darbuotoj?.

Daugiau informacijos iš Europos prieglobs?io paramos biuro galima gauti kreipiantis e. pašto adresu:
press@easo.europa.eu