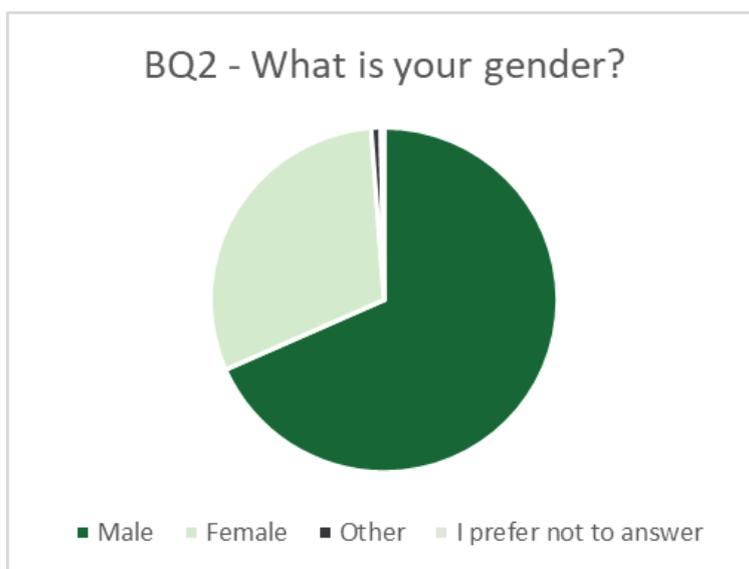
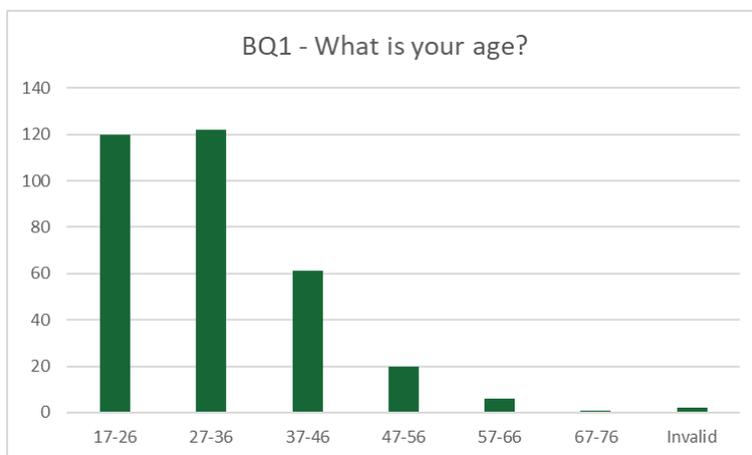


PRELIMINARY REPORT

FIRST DATA REPORT BASED ON QUESTIONNAIRES | UPDATED DEC 2021

1. FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRES TARGETING ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES:



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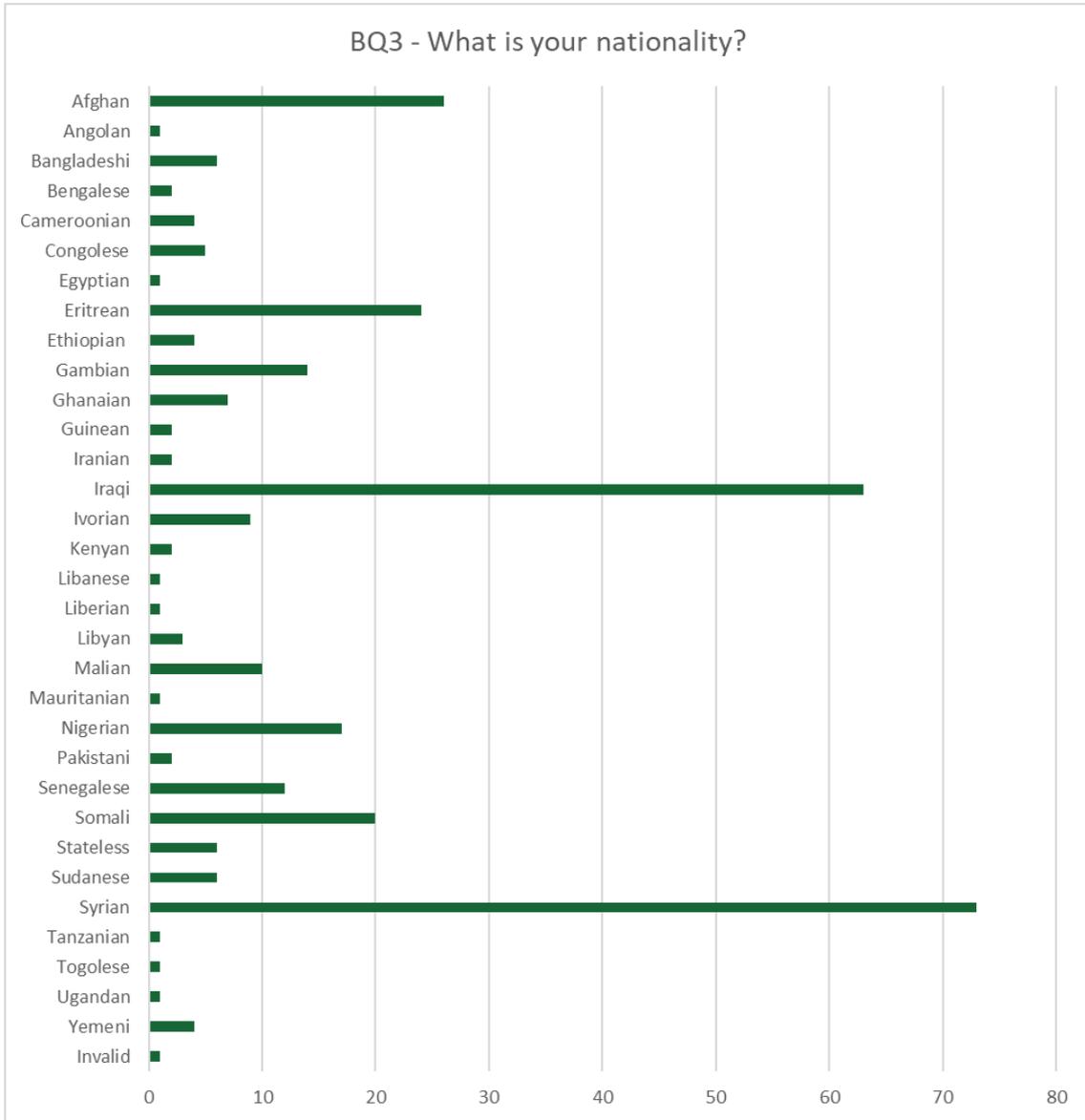


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BULGARIAN COUNCIL ON
REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS





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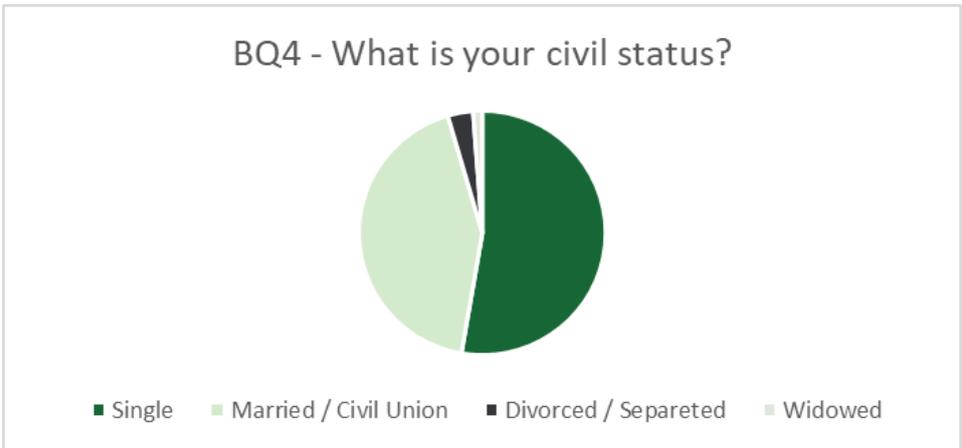
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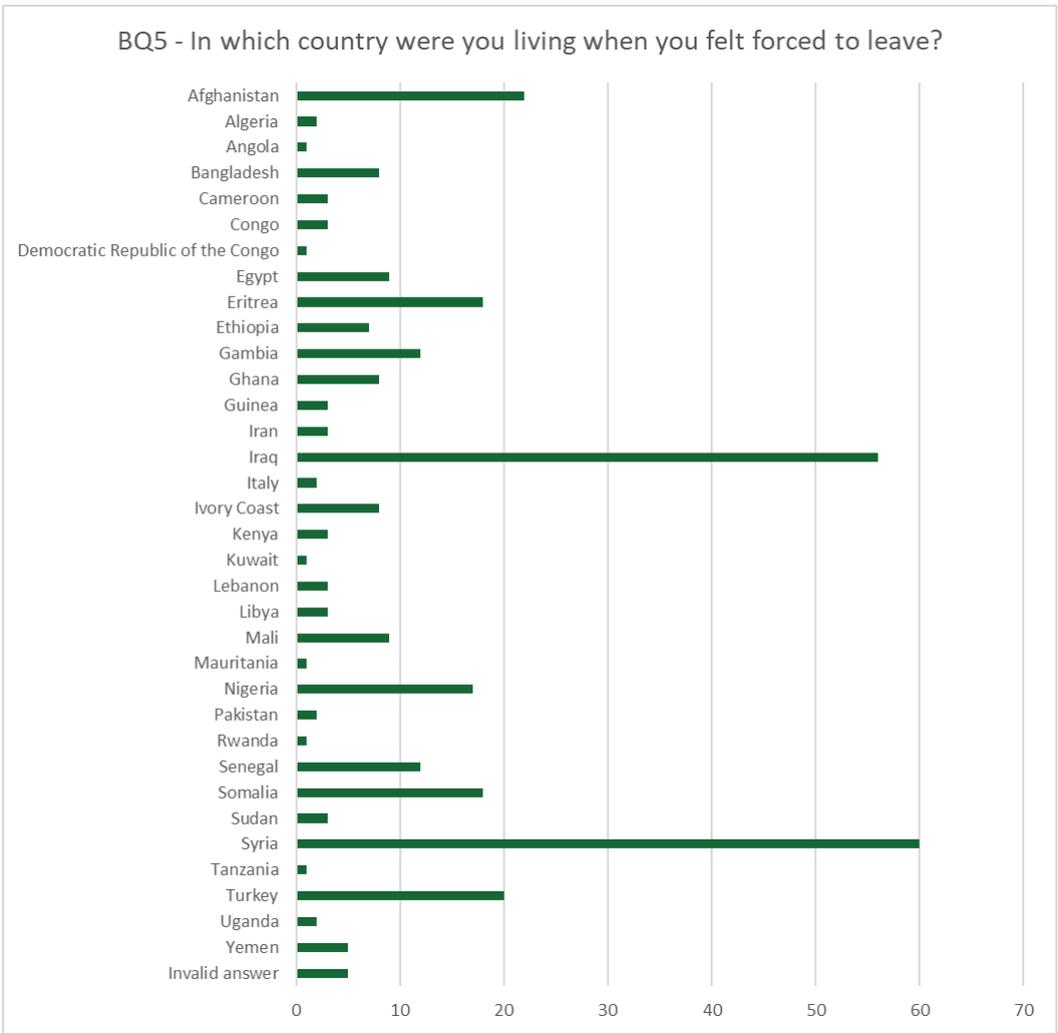
BULGARIAN COUNCIL ON
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BQ4 - What is your civil status?



BQ5 - In which country were you living when you felt forced to leave?



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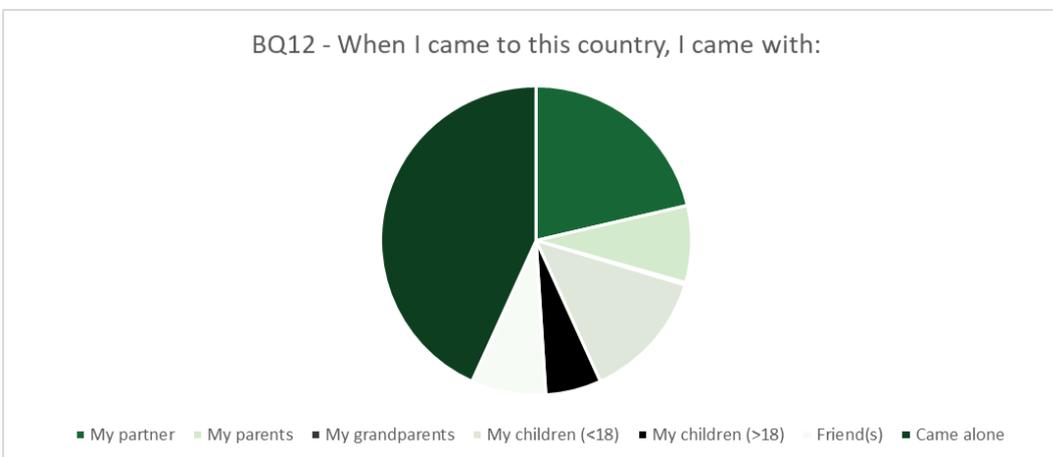
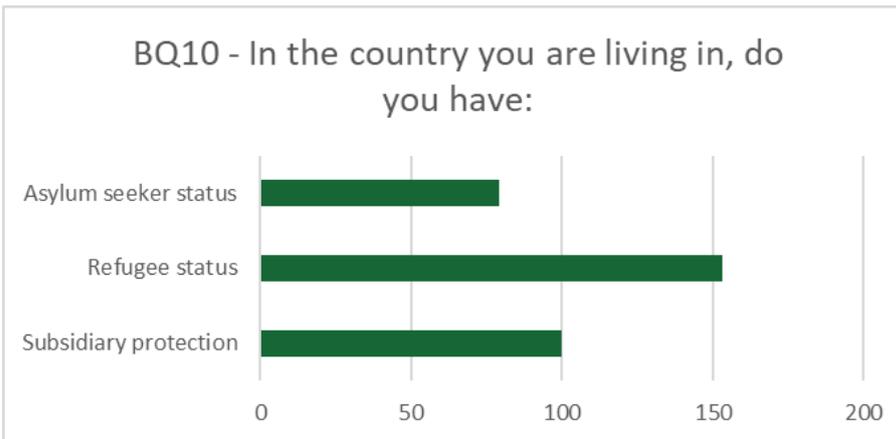
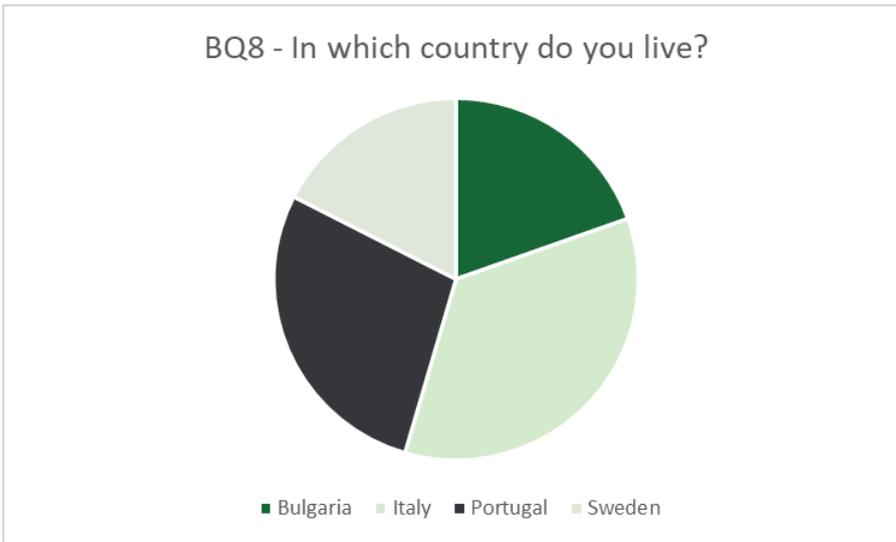


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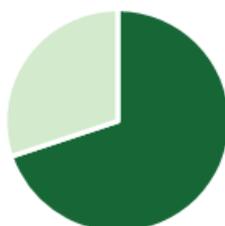


BQ18 - Did you participate/are you participating in an integration programme?



■ Yes ■ No

BQ24 - Have you ever lived in a refugee camp/center in your hosting country?



■ Yes ■ No

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

The analysis of the sociodemographic information given by the beneficiaries who filled in the questionnaires revealed that the highest number of participants was between the ages of 17 and 36 (73%). This was followed by the age group of 37- to 46-years-olds (18%) and the 47- to 57-years-olds (6%). One person (<1%) was above the age of 67, and 2 answers (<1%) were invalid. Regarding the gender of the beneficiaries, 68 percent identified as male and 30 percent as

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Programma integra



ÖSTERSUNDS KOMMUN
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female. Three people (one percent of the sample) identified as other (not specified). The beneficiaries' sample was made up of people from 32 different countries. The nationalities that were represented the most were Syrian (22%), Iraqi (19%), Afghan (8%) and Eritrean (7%). The question about the civil status of the beneficiaries revealed that the majority (53%) of the participants was single, followed by the group of people that was married or in a civil union (43%). Three percent of the sample were divorced or separated, and one percent was widowed.

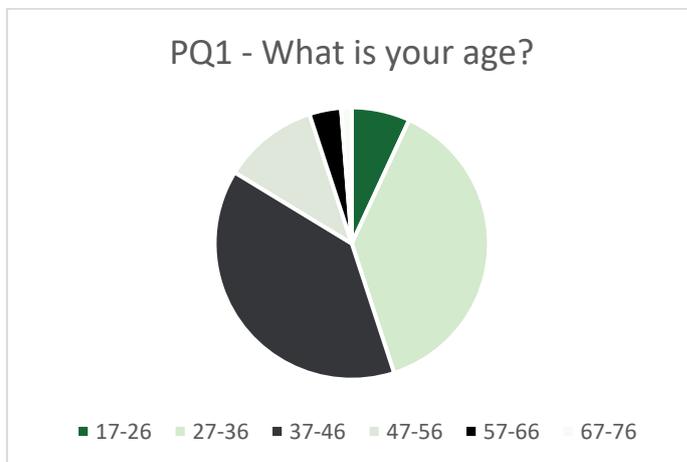
The country that most refugees and asylum seekers were living in when they felt forced to leave was Syria (18%), followed by Iraq (17%), Afghanistan (7%) and Turkey (6%).

All of the participants are living in one of the partner organizations' countries. The highest number of participants is living in Italy (35%). Twenty-eight percent are currently living in Portugal, and twenty percent each in Bulgaria and Sweden. Almost half of the beneficiaries who answered the questionnaires have refugee status (46%). Thirty percent are under subsidiary protection, and 24% have been granted asylum seeker status. Most of the beneficiaries indicated that they came to their host country alone (43%). About a fifth of the participants (21%) came with their partner, and 14% brought children who are still minors. Others came with their parents (8%) or friends (8%), and six percent came with adult children.

When asked about whether they participated in an integration programme (either now or in the past), two-third (67%) of the participants answered the question in the affirmative, whereas one-third (33%) answered with 'no'.

The vast majority of the beneficiaries (70%) had lived in a refugee camp/center in their host country in the past or were currently living in one. Thirty percent stated that they had never lived in a refugee camp or center in their host country.

2. FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRES TARGETING PROFESSIONALS:



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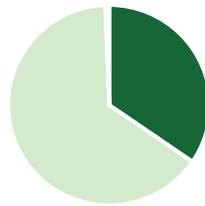
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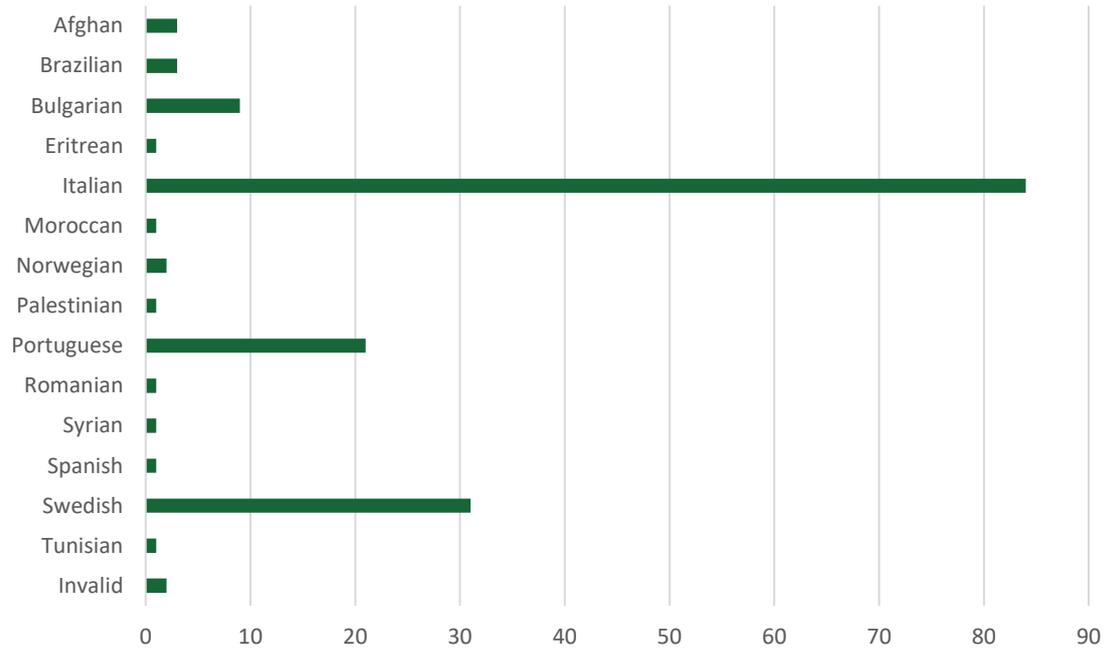


PQ2 - What is your gender?



■ Male ■ Female ■ I prefer not to answer

PQ3 - What is your nationality?



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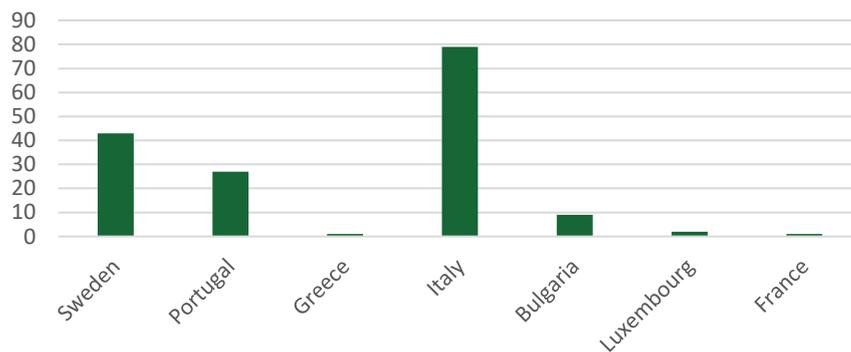
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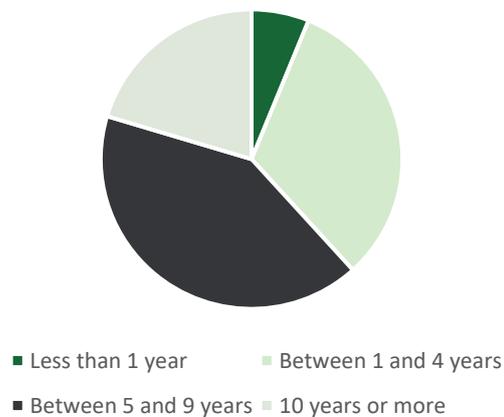
PQ5 - How would you characterize the organization you work for?



PQ6 - In which city is your organization based?



PQ8 - How long have you been working with migrants/refugees/asylum seekers?



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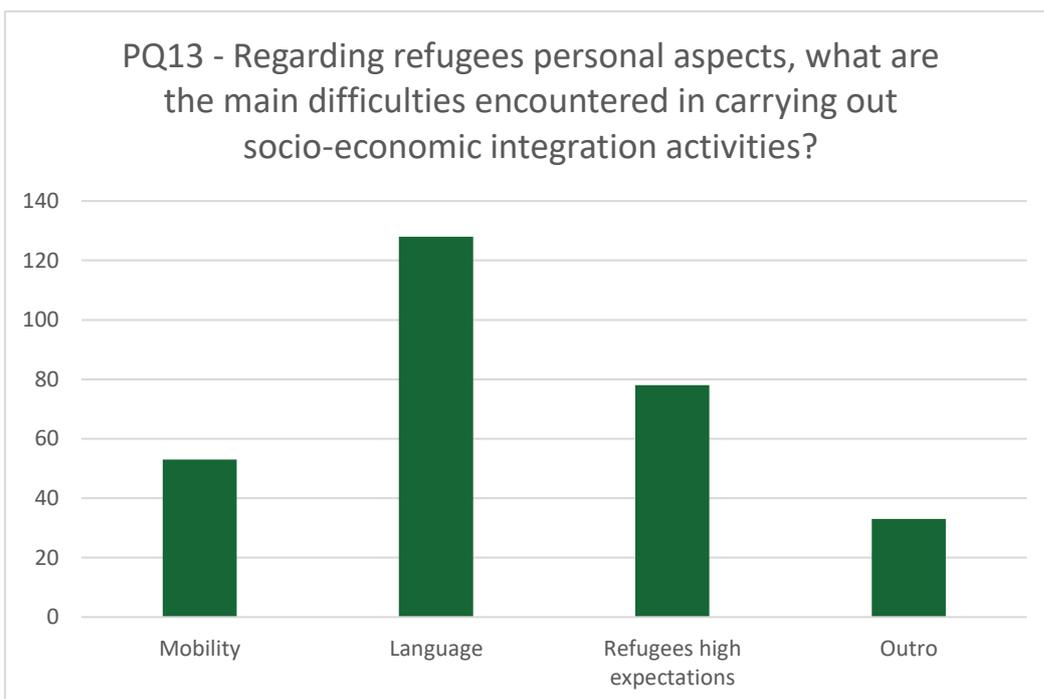
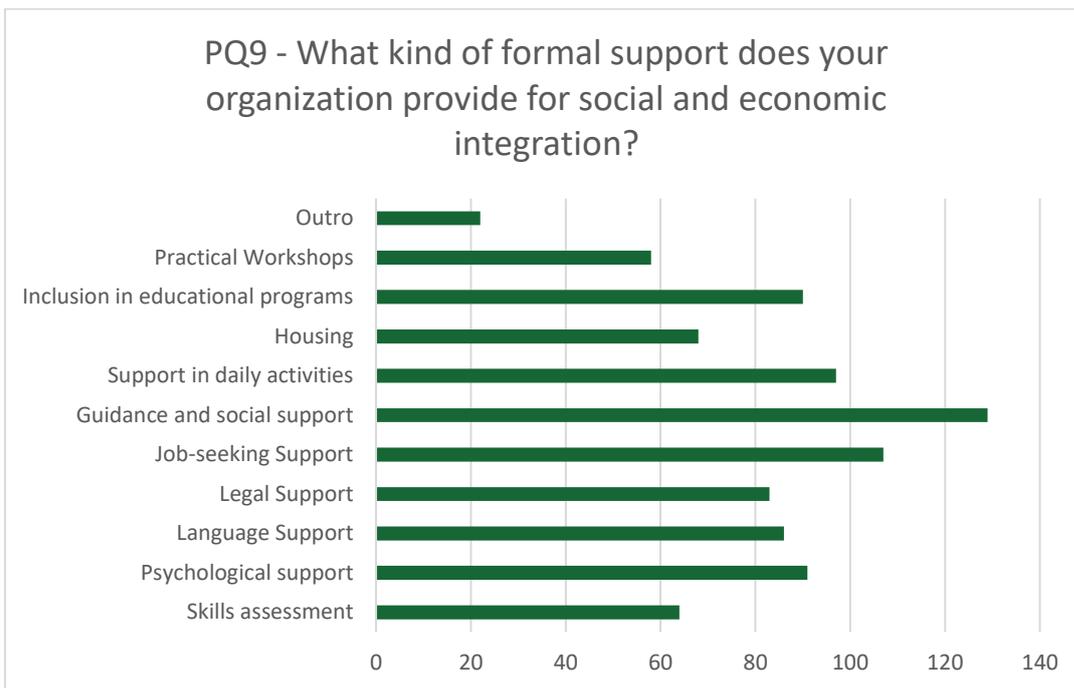


BULGARIAN COUNCIL ON REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

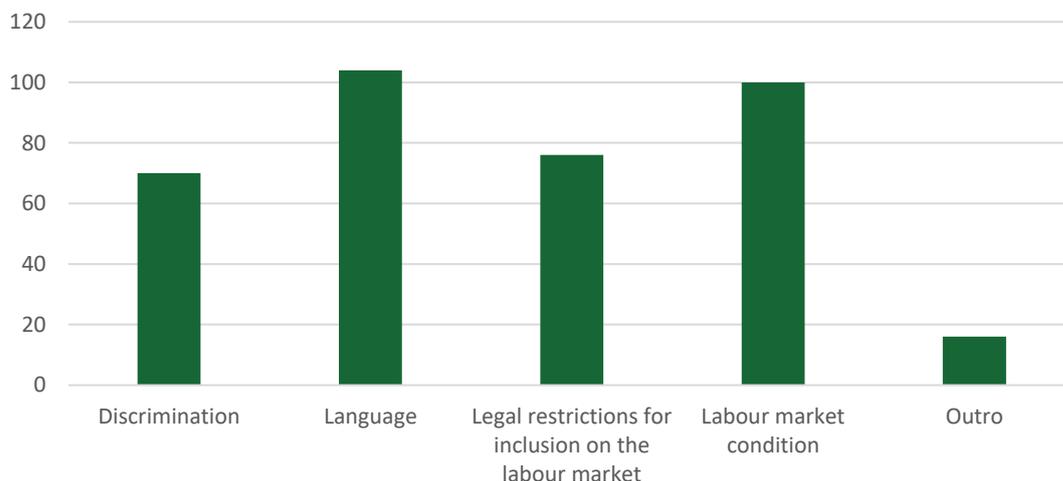


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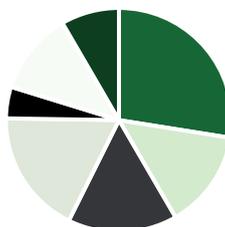




PQ14 - Regarding organisations and society, what are the main difficulties encountered in carrying out socio-economic integration activities?



PQ15 - Please identify two positive aspects of working with asylum seekers/refugees:



- Feeling that my time/work/profession is dedicated to something useful and can make the difference in someone's life - Meaningful work
- Constantly adapting to new cultures and customs in a dynamic and versatile workplace
- Opportunity to work in an intercultural environment
- Improving someone's transferable skills will be beneficial for the wider community as it is promoting a more well-rounded work force
- Gratitude from those who are receiving assistance

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KEY OBSERVATIONS:

The questions about the sociodemographic background of the participants revealed the following characteristics of our sample of professionals: The largest share of the participants (77%) was between 27 and 46 years old. The remaining sample was made up of participants between 17 and 26 years (7%), and 47- to 76-years-olds (16%). Around two-thirds (65%) of the sample identified as female and around one-third (34.5%) as male. There was a small percentage (<1%) of people who did not give information about their gender.

The question about the nationality of the technicians revealed that the sample was quite diverse in this regard, including participants from both European and non-European countries. Not surprisingly, however, the largest share of professionals came from the partner organizations' countries, with Italy presenting the highest number of technicians (52%), followed by Sweden (19%), Portugal (13%), and Bulgaria (6%).

Thirty-three percent of the participants worked for the private sector and 38% for a non-governmental organization. A little over a quarter (27%) of the technicians stated that they were working for a public body or institution. The remaining participants were employed at international organizations (3%). The majority of the organizations that participants worked at were based in Italy (49%), followed by Sweden (27%), Portugal (17%), and Bulgaria (6%). The sample also included professionals that worked in organizations in Greece, Luxembourg, and France (around one percent each).

Forty-one percent of the professionals indicated that they had been working with migrants, refugees, and/or asylum seekers for five to nine years. Another third (32%) of the participants indicated that they had been active in this field for one to four years. One-fifth (20%) had been working in the area of 10 years or more, and a small share (6%) had been working with the population for less than a year.

Asked about the formal support that the professionals' respective organizations provide for social and economic integration, a variety of answers appeared, including practical workshops (mentioned by 36%), inclusion in educational programs (56%), housing (42%), support in daily activities (60%), guidance and social support (80%), job-seeking support (66%), legal support (51%), language support (53%), psychological support (56%), skills assessment (40%), and other forms of support not further specified (14%).

Most technicians (79%) stated that language was by far the main difficulty that was encountered during socio-economic integration activities. This was followed by refugees' high expectations (48%) and mobility aspects (33%), as well as other difficulties not explained further (20%). Regarding organizations and society, the main difficulties in carrying out socio-economic integration activities identified by the professionals were language (64%) and labor market (62%) conditions. This was followed by legal restrictions for inclusion on the labor market (47%), discrimination (43%), and other difficulties not further specified (10%).

The technicians identified various benefits of the work with asylum seekers and/or refugees. The benefit that was mentioned most, by 28% of the participants, was that they perceived their work as being meaningful for the population they work with. This was followed by the aspect of

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the work being beneficial for the wider community (18%), adapting to different cultures in a dynamic and versatile workplace (14%), and being able to work in an intercultural environment (16%). Some professionals also mentioned the aspect of relationships between beneficiaries and technicians as a benefit (12%), others pointed out that they gained a better understanding of the concepts of resilience and adaptability (8%) and a smaller share (5%) stated that gratitude from the asylum seekers and refugees was a positive characteristic of their work.

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