Countering Anti-Refugee narratives and incidents

Action Plan

Protection Sector Agencies

Mapping of initiatives

- The protection sector/its members can **map** different initiatives that exist in Poland countering anti-refugee narratives and incidents.
- **Actors** that are already involved in different initiatives include:

Government
(e.g. MoI, MoJ, police, Plenipotentiary for equal treatment, NASK (State cybersecurity monitoring body, Ombudsman)

NGOs/CSOs/RLOs
(Never Again Association, Nomada Association, Polish Migration Forum, Ukrainian House Foundation, Helsinki Foundation, SIP, Towards Dialogue, Association of Roma in Poland)

UN Agencies

Academics/Universities

Journalists

Artists

Educators

Influencers

Faith groups

International and Regional organizations
(ECRI, Council of Europe, OSCE/ODIHR)

Monitoring and Research

- **Specialized protection sector agencies that are involved in countering anti-refugee narratives and incidents will continue to monitor** anti-refugee narratives and incidents through field monitoring and media monitoring *(e.g. Never Again Association, Nomada Association, Polish Migration Forum, Ukrainian House Foundation, Helsinki Foundation, SIP, Towards Dialogue, Association of Roma in Poland)*

- The protection sector will **cooperate with academia** and think tanks to gather data and evidence on anti refugee narratives and incidents

Information Sharing

- Strengthened **information sharing through the Protection Sector** about challenges and existing response mechanisms, initiatives and programs in place as well as funding opportunities

- Strengthen **CwC information sharing mechanisms** with refugees (e.g. how to report incidents, where to receive support)

Coordination and Strategic Alliances

- Under already existing networks, the protection sector will strengthen coordination **across sector** actors in Poland that already work on anti refugee narratives and incidents to shift public discourse (harmonized approach). Join networks that already exist (good examples by PMF, Mapuj Pomoc).

- Under national leadership, protection sector agencies will advocate for the inclusion of protection sector actors and refugee and host communities in **national action plan discussions/task force regarding anti-refugee narratives and incidents**

Social cohesion

(engagement with refugee and host communities

Specialized protection sector agencies, RLOs/CBOs, will continue to work on:

- **Inter-cultural community initiatives** that strengthen meaningful contact and intercultural dialogue between refugees and host communities to foster empathy and understanding (e.g. neighbourhood events, festivals, sport events etc.)

- **Provide platforms for refugees (including youth) to share personal stories** in Polish media, during community events and schools to humanize refugee experiences and counter stereotypes.

- **Positive peace mediation projects for indigenous and minority communities**

- Strengthening **intercultural education** including in the public education system

Strengthen Communication

Specialized protection sector agencies will:

- Strengthen inclusive messaging that highlights **refugees' contributions** to society
- **Amplify refugee voices** and share positive success inclusion stories.
- Collaborate with **tech platforms/fact-checking organizations/media outlets to** track and remove xenophobic content and disinformation online
- Train refugee communities in **digital literacy, media literacy and public speaking.**
- Support refugee-led organizations through capacity-building and networking to take active roles in **self-advocacy**
- Strengthen alliances with **media and journalists and provide expertise and training**

Legal interventions

Specialized protection sector legal agencies will:

- **Provide legal support** for refugees.
- **Training for Law enforcement** (on the legal framework, ECHR jurisprudence, aggravating circumstances)
- Involving **Third Parties in Criminal Cases** (court interventions)
- Report incidents to the **Ombudsman's office**
- Work with local authorities on **local reporting and supporting systems**