

SUPPORT THE REGULATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF NON-EU WORKFORCE IN ROMANIA

The signatories of this petition, active and responsible citizens of Romania, aware of the challenges facing the labor market in our country and the urgent need to efficiently and responsibly address the labor shortage in essential sectors of the national economy, respectfully address the request regarding the regulation of labor force importation in Romania and the development of a national strategy for the integration of workers from third countries, as follows:

1. THE URGENT DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A SPECIFIC LEGAL FRAMEWORK TO REGULATE THE ACTIVITY OF AGENCIES SPECIALIZED IN MIGRATION SERVICES

This legal framework must include:

- Establishing clear authorization criteria for agencies specialized in migration services to ensure compliance with national and international labor laws and protection of workers' rights.
- Implementing standards of professionalism and ethics for these agencies, thus guaranteeing transparent and fair recruitment services.
- Introducing a mandatory financial guarantee system for agencies specialized in migration services to cover potential costs arising from non-compliance or the need to repatriate workers to their countries of origin.
- Creating an efficient monitoring and control mechanism enables authorities to oversee these agencies' activity and intervene promptly in case of identified deviations.

2. AMENDING LAW NO. 95/2006 ON HEALTH REFORM:

In addition to our previous requests, we insist on the revision and updating of Article 211 paragraph (1) of Law no. 95/2006 on health reform. We propose that granting insured status to foreign citizens with the right to work be directly linked to the moment of payment of the first contribution for health insurance and not to the official date of residence permit extension. This legislative change is crucial because there is a considerable gap between the payment of the health insurance contribution and the extension of the residence permit, leaving many foreign citizens in a state of uncertainty and vulnerability, without access to necessary medical services, even though they fulfill their tax obligations to the state. This situation creates an obvious disparity between the rights and obligations of foreign citizens, undermining the principles of equity and universal access to healthcare promoted by Romanian legislation. Therefore, the proposed amendment will significantly contribute to ensuring access to medical care for all foreign citizens contributing to the social health insurance system, thus improving social cohesion and equity in access to healthcare services in Romania.

3. THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE INTEGRATION OF FOREIGN WORKERS

This strategy should include the following key elements:

- **Language and Cultural Education Courses:** Providing Romanian language courses and cultural education programs for foreign workers. These courses facilitate communication and help understand local values and customs.
- **Assistance and Information Services:** Developing specialized services to provide foreign workers with information about their rights, available social services, administrative procedures, and assistance addressing any issues they may face.
- **Promoting Diversity and Inclusion:** Promoting diversity and inclusion in the Romanian community. This should include awareness campaigns and programs that encourage mutual respect among all groups of citizens.
- **Collaboration with the Private Sector:** Actively involving the private sector in the integration process, especially employers using foreign labor. This collaboration should ensure fair working conditions and respect for the rights of foreign workers.

- Continuous Monitoring and Evaluation: Implementing a monitoring and evaluation system for the strategy's progress, with regular public reports to ensure transparency and necessary adjustments based on developments in the field.

This National Integration Strategy should be developed in close collaboration with non-governmental organizations, civil society, employers, and field experts to ensure that it effectively addresses the needs of foreign workers and Romanian society as a whole.

The development and implementation of this strategy are crucial steps towards ensuring legal and controlled migration, as well as developing a more open, inclusive, and respectful society towards diversity.