



LOCAL ACTIONS in POZNAN

Newsletter - September 2014

We invite everyone interested in local actions in Poznań taken within AMIGA project to read this newsletter.

1. **Migrant Info Point**



The first information point in Poznań, which provides immigrants with important information and support has started its activity in October 2013 which means that MIP is about to celebrate its **first birthday!**

Just to remind you: the aim of MIP is to consolidate and spread information concerning law regulations and daily life in Poznań, which until recently was not easily accessible. One year of the activity of the Migrant Info Point has proven that there is a need for a place like this in Poznań. We are very happy that migrants coming to us share this conviction. MIP is open twice a week for 6 hours a day and has been visited around 350 times by more than 200 foreigners so far.

Change of address! At the beginning of September MIP migrated itself ☺ and moved from Collegium Historicum to Collegium Chemicum. The new place is much bigger so we are already planning to make use of the space: we can organize workshops and other meetings there.

The new address is: Centre for Migration Studies AMU, Collegium Chemicum, Grunwaldzka 6, 60-780 Poznań, 2nd floor, room 253

2. **Courses, workshops and individual consultations**

Besides the informational support concerning formal-legal issues related to work or daily life in Poznań, migrants can sign up for further forms of support (always offered for free) such as job counseling, Polish courses and workshops.

- **Job counseling**

Individual consultations in English or Polish take place every week; over 50 people have leapt at this opportunity till now; the duration of a single counseling is one hour.

- **Individual consultations concerning opening your own company**

Thanks to the cooperation with Poznań City Hall (Business Activity and Agriculture Department) we can sign up foreigners who come to MIP for consultations with experts from the Advisory Center of Poznan City Hall.

- **Polish language courses**

Over 90 people have had a chance to study Polish thanks to the courses offered within the project; there has been keen demand for them from the very beginning of the project, we have already done 10 courses and 2 others will start from October on, and afterwards some more as well.

- **Workshop “Step by step to your own company”**

**Free of charge WORKSHOP for foreigners concerning
self-employment in Poland**

„Step-by-step to your own company in Poland”

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| <p>Language: English Date: Monday, 29.09.2014, 10am – 2pm Location: <u>Malej 50, Poznań</u>, room no 4 (ground floor).</p> <p>Presenter: Karolina Scałowska Ośrodek Doradztwa Szkoleniowego Wydziału Doskonalności Gospodarczej i Rolnictwa, Poznań City Hall</p> | <p>Framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the idea to your own business • Different forms of vocational activities • Legal regulations • Legal and organizational forms of self-employment in Poland • Self-employment for foreigners • Registration and running a business in Poland (depending on the type of company) |
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Admission at Migrant Info Point (MIP) only
Admission open until 25.09.2014

We organize free of charge workshops aimed at foreigners planning to establish their own company in Poland. Within the workshop staff of the Training Office of the Department of Economic Activity and Agriculture (Poznan City Hall) discuss matters such as legal and organizational aspects of running a business in Poland, rules of its registration and costs related to it. There were 5 editions of the workshops so far with over 60 attendees (last edition on **29th of September 2014**). Each of these

workshops has been prepared in multiple languages: English, Russian, Spanish (and Polish at the same time). All participants have received a package with training materials translated into English/Spanish/Russian, which is also to be found on our webpage:

<http://migrant.poznan.pl/en/law-regulation/work-in-poland/business.html> .

3. **Website and facebook**

The **Website** www.migrant.poznan.pl incorporates all the important information related to legal regulations and daily life in Poznań. We prepare new contents for our webpage www.migrant.poznan.pl on a regular basis. We inform about changes of the law and also about ongoing events in Poznan.

MIP on Facebook: We also inform about our current activities and other project actions (in Poznan and Poland) on Facebook: www.facebook.com/migrantinfopoint. For many people this is the first source of information about our activities.

4. **Streetworking**

„**Streetworking**” is connected to MIP’s activities and complements them by actions undertaken outside the office. Three Streetworkers work mainly as migrants’ assistants and work outside the office besides MIP regular working hours. They also promote the project and provide constant evaluation of their support. Besides their regular work, streetworkers have started recently to **evaluate** the work of Migrant Info Point. This evaluation will help us to explore what should be improved and whether this kind of support is needed and should be

continued. We also contact MIP's guests to check how they are getting along after some months from their last visit in MIP.

- Streetworkers: Izabela Czerniejewska, Agata Kochaniewicz, Agata Pakieła
Coordinator: Izabella Main

6. Cooperation of different institutions

Both in Poznań and in Munich there are three local teams which are concerned with supporting three different groups of migrants: 1) these with difficulties at the labor market, 2) students and graduates, 3) people who plan to establish their own business.

Each of the teams in Poznań consists of representatives of Poznań City Hall, District Employment Agency, Wielkopolska Voivodeship Office, employees of Poznań universities and streetworkers. Meetings are held on a regular basis every 6 weeks. **New institutions** are still joining the group, during the last months we had the pleasure to start a cooperation with Poznań University of Technology and City Development Department – “Academic Poznań” program.

NEW IDEAS

Beside the fixed offer of AMIGA we have recently undertaken new steps that come as a result of both, the work of AMIGA's three local groups as well as reported needs of the foreigners themselves. Two of them are:

- **International Picnic**

As a reaction to the proposals of the AMIGA team members and foreigners related to the need of additional chances to meet up, we have been organizing International Picnics.

The first Picnic took place in April and since that time it became a regular event: we meet monthly every last Saturday. Last month the picnic was connected with book exchange (it involved books in other languages than Polish). We plan to move the picnic indoors during autumn and winter. There are already plans for the next meetings: in September the picnic



will be organized together with MIP's first birthday celebration and in October the picnic will be part of a new festival in the cultural centre of Poznań.

The information about the next edition of the picnic will be published on our website: www.migrant.poznan.pl and our Facebook profile Migrant Info Point soon.

- **Employers open to foreigners**

We have initiated the action “Employer open to foreigners”: companies joining this action declare that they are open to the idea of hiring foreigners. Not all migrants living in Poznań are fluent in Polish, but they come to our city with their own cultural baggage, that local employers can benefit from. Therefore we want to promote the openness and willingness to cooperate with foreigners. We find this action very useful and needed and hopefully it will become a meaningful part of AMIGA-continuation project.

Project website: www.migrant.pzonan.pl, www.amiga-project.eu