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A. Key data sources and responsible institutions

The most important institutions responsible for data collection in the Slovak Republic (SR) are:


- **The Ministry of the Interior of the SR (MI SR)** – main datasets: Register of Population, Register of Foreigners, information system “Refugee”, Illegal entry and stay of persons, Statistics on acquisitions of citizenship;

- **Ministry of Justice SR (MJ SR)** – main dataset: Register of Criminal Offenders;

- **The Ministry of Labour Social Affairs and Family (MLSAF SR)** – main datasets: Information system on employed foreigners, Information system of State social support (ISSSP), statistics on employment controls of labour offices.

The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic is responsible for the preparation and the conducting of Population and Housing Censuses. The Population and Housing Census is one of the most important and extensive statistical surveys traditionally conducted every ten years.

The last Census was carried out in 2001, in accordance with the Act No. 165/1998 (Coll.) on the 2001 Population and Housing Census in the Slovak Republic. It was the first census conducted after the foundation of the Slovak Republic. A traditional method of using census questionnaires (self-enumeration) was applied. Each person (nationals and non-nationals) whose place of permanent or temporary residence at the date of the Census in the Slovak Republic was enumerated. Foreigners with stay over 30 days were included as well, but the questions that they had to answer were limited.

Between censuses, for national purposes, the Statistical Office of the SR processes data on international migration flows on the basis of the statistical report “Report on change of address of permanent residence OBYV 5-12” (Hlášenie o stahovaní, Obv 5-12), which is filled in when changing the place of permanent residence. Similar forms are to be filled in for other demographic events such as birth, marriage, divorce, and death. The data are collected from registry offices in charge of keeping birth, marriage and death registers; health institutions (abortions); competent courts (divorces); residence registration offices of municipal and city authorities and competent departments of the Ministry of Interior for foreigners (migration). There is also a special register of the vital events occurring to SR citizens abroad. The information is processed under the Programme of National Statistical Surveys, a legislative document imposing the reporting duty concerning all statistical surveys on reporting units according to § 18, Par. 3 of Act No. 540/2001 Coll. on State Statistics.

Demographic data are drawn from the statistical reports:

- OBYV 1-12 (Statistical Report on the Conclusion of Marriage);
- OBYV 2-12 (Statistical Report on Birth);
- OBYV 3-12 (Medical Report and the Statistical Report on Death);
- OBYV 4-12 (Statistical Report on Divorce);
From 1958, demographic statistics includes data on spontaneous and induced abortions as well. The data source is the information system of the Ministry of Health. The National Health Information Centre under the Ministry of Health produces the abortion data by means of processing the form ‘Application for Abortion and the Report on Abortion’.

The processing of demographic data is performed under the automated statistical information system (ASIS) encompassing the following three databases: the source database, the production database and the public database. The source database is loaded with primary data, the production database with outputs from primary data processing, and the public database is opened to external users, e.g. bodies cooperating with the Statistical Office of the SR, such as the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice.

The data processing has the following phases:

- recording and checking data from the OBYV 1-5/12 reports;
- loading data into the source database;
- processing outputs for the production database;
- production of output tables and of other aggregates.

Demographic statistics is produced continually, separately for each month and for the whole year. Data on population change is calculated monthly, and, as a result, the following outputs are available:

- statistics on population change (basic absolute and relative indicators, population growth and population numbers by sex for a given period);
- tables on individual demographic events (statistics on marriages, divorces, births, abortions, deaths and the change of permanent residence);
- specific age-related indicators for concerned persons (e.g. fiancés, mothers of the new live-born, the dead, divorced, females who have undergone abortion, etc.).

Demographic statistics along with regularly performed population and housing censuses and with the system of supplementary population surveys (microcensuses – the last one was conducted in 2003) provides the decisive bulk of information on population as a whole, on its spatial distribution, numbers, structures and characteristics in a specific period of time.

The Labour Force Survey organised by the Statistical Office of the SR quarterly provides little information on foreigners living in the SR. It is due to the small sample size, the low share of foreigners in the Slovak population, and the lack of representativeness. The survey is conducted in households, not in lodging houses, so e.g. Ukrainian and Vietnamese citizens are largely underestimated. However, it gives some information on nationals living abroad.

Also little information can be gained from EU-SILC about foreigners. The reason is the same as in the case of LFS.

In co-operation with the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Statistical Office of the SR co-ordinates the collection and supplying of migration
data according to Eurostat requirements and UN recommendations. It also collects and processes data according to the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on migration and international protection.

The Ministry of the Interior (MI SR) is dealing with migration of foreigners by its bodies - Bureau of the Border and Aliens Police and Migration Office.

Bureau of the Border and Aliens Police runs The Central Register of Aliens with Granted Residence Permits (sometimes entitled as Aliens Register). The Register includes all foreigners holding a residence permit for more than three months, minors or newborns in the Slovak Republic from foreign parents and EU citizens with permanent residence. Asylum seekers are excluded.

Bureau of the Border and Aliens Police also collects data on illegal migration (illegal border crossing and illegal stay in the SR). The Migration Office provides data on asylum and asylum seekers (database “Refugee”). The Migration Office is also responsible for migration policy of the SR.

MI SR – Section of the Public administration runs Central Register of inhabitants of the Slovak Republic. The Register includes data on all citizens of the Slovak Republic with permanent residence in the SR, foreigners with permanent residence permit and with residence permits at least for 90 days and over, EU-citizens with permanent and temporary residence, refugees with asylum granted and foreigners under temporary international protection.

MI SR – Section of the Public administration also provides the Central register of acquisition and loss of citizenship of the Slovak Republic.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic (MLSAF) provides labour market policy, determines methods and conditions of granting work permits to foreigners and stateless persons. The MLSAF has a section on the EU Affairs and International Relations which closely cooperates with the Centre of Labour, Social Affairs and Family in this area. The department of Analysis and Statistical Surveys of the Centre is responsible, among others, for establishing and evaluation of the information system on labour migration according to EU and national requirements.

Employment of foreigners on the territory of the Slovak Republic falls under the authority of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family. This area was first under the control of the Ministry by the Employment Services Administration, then from 1997 until 2003 by the National Labour Office. Since January 1, 2004 it has been within the scope of the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, which is supervised by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family.

The statistical data concerning employment of foreigners represent a subset within the program of employment observatory in the Slovak Republic. The output of this program is represented only by the absolute numbers of employed foreigners in the SR and its districts. The data is processed quarterly.

The input data for statistical analysis is the work permits for foreigners. The employment of citizens of the Czech Republic is monitored separately using the data from registration cards based on the bilateral agreement concerning mutual employment of citizens. However, concerning the employment of foreigners, no other significant groups were statistically analysed, such as foreigners with permanent residence permits in Slovakia, or foreigners with “foreign Slovak” status.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs keeps a register in its information system, including
data on applicants for visa and on visa granted or denied, with a linkage to the registers of the Ministry of Interior.

There are other administrative datasets containing information on migrants. They can be found at the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Education for instance (see Annex 1).

The Act no. 540/2001 Coll. on the State Statistics provides the legal framework for the activity of the SO SR. It regulates in detail what kind of data the administration is obliged to provide for the SO SR (free of charge). Citizenship is not mentioned specifically, but the text leaves room for different interpretations.

B. Historical evolution of the national data collection system / data collection practices and policies on data collection

In the territory of Slovakia, the first census was conducted in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. After 1918, the censuses were carried out within the frame of Czechoslovakia. They were dominantly based on the concept of permanent residence; however, all the persons present in the territory of Slovakia at given date were enumerated.

The 1991 census was the last Czechoslovak census before the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic split up. The preparation of the census was in its final phase influenced by the rapidly changing social and political situation after November 1989 (disintegration of municipalities, changes in central and local state bodies). A new census element was the survey of religion (last time surveyed in 1950). The ethnic nationality was indicated based on self-declaration. Also the place of birth – defined as the place of permanent residence of mother at the time of birth – was asked.

The 2001 census was the first census conducted in the independent Slovak Republic. It was coordinated by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic. The preparation and processing of the census were done on the basis of the law No. 165/1998. The census was carried out by self-enumeration of persons. The questionnaires were available not only in Slovak language, but also in Hungarian, Ukrainian, Ruthenian and Romany languages. It allowed to answer the maximum of questions by marking pre-assigned answers.

2011 Census will be processed according to Act No. 263/2008 Coll. of 18 June 2008 on 2011 Census of Population, Houses, and Dwellings. The Act was prepared and adopted in compliance with the Regulation (EC) No. 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Population and Housing Censuses. It will be classical, census (not register based). The following information will be collected in regard with migrants: place of permanent residence or place of usual residence, sex, date of birth, family status, state and place of birth, previous place of residence, date and reason for immigration in the current place of residence, relationships among household members, current economic activity, occupation (NACE), employment status (Classification of Occupation – ISCO 88, place of occupation (i.e. place of job performance, workplace), highest educational attainment, field of study, place of school, university, ethnic nationality (declaratory, not obligatory), mother tongue, most frequently used language, religion (declaratory, not obligatory).
In January 2005, the Government of the Slovak Republic declared the principles of migration policy, following international agreements on the topic, which the SR is bound to. In order to co-ordinate future activities resulting from the concept of migration policy, the Minister of Interior was put in charge to establish a working commission consisting of deputies of concerned ministries, the SR Government Office, the Statistical Office, the Office of United Nations’ High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Migration Organisation and the Slovak Helsinki Committee.

Recently, substantial changes in the system of granting and registration of residence permits took place. On 1 April 2002, a new Act No. 48/2002 Coll. on Stay of Aliens was put in force. By the adoption of that law, compliance has been achieved with the Constitution of the SR and with international agreements signed by the SR on the issues of family reunion, and migration and the stay of foreigners. The law gives a legislative basis for approximating migration legislation of the SR to legislation of the EU.

Also, an amendment has been made to the Act No. 253/1998 Coll. on Reporting the Residence of Citizens of the Slovak Republic and on Register of Inhabitants of the Slovak Republic. The law has been published unabridged as the law No. 500/2004 regulating

- rights and duties of the SR citizens at notifying their residence,
- rights and duties of municipalities in registering the SR citizens’ residence,
- establishing the Register of Inhabitants of the SR and
- supplying data from the Register of Inhabitants of the SR and from the Register of SR citizens’ residence.

By the amendment to the Act No. 40/1993 Coll. on Citizenship, approved in 2004, the conditions for granting of the SR citizenship were amended, and some cases facilitating the acquisition of the SR citizenship were treated.

The amendment to Act No. 480/2002 Coll. on Asylum, effective from February 2005, reconciles migration and asylum legislation of the SR with legislation of the EU; it facilitates the entry of foreigners into the asylum procedure.

Regarding labour migration, according to the amendment to the Act No. 387/1996 on Employment, the employer should notify the Centre of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of all the foreigners he/she employs.

The Act no. 5/2004 Coll. on the employment services states that the Centre of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of Slovakia and the Offices of Labour, Social Affairs and Family are responsible for keeping records processing and monthly publishing statistical data concerning the employment of EU/EEA citizens and third country nationals on the territory of the Slovak republic.

C. Coordination and linking

As it was mentioned above, the SO SR is responsible for the statistical data collection and publishing statistics in the Slovak Republic in the scope of basic legislation of the Programme of National Statistical Surveys. The system of data
collection, data processing and publishing is described above. Recently, the system of demographic statistics, involving migration for national purposes is based on the concept of permanent residence.

In the frame of the project “Using of Administrative Data Sources”, administrative data sources were monitored; the transfer of data into the statistical system of the SO SR was suggested and the linkage of different administrative datasets was considered. However, recently, according to the law on personal data protection the linkage of the given administrative data sources is problematic.

At present, a discussion on processing the statistical outputs necessary for demographic and migration statistics as well as for census and for other surveys (e.g. sample surveys) with the staff responsible for the Register of Inhabitants of the SR under the Ministry of Interior takes place.

In the future, it will be possible to draw the data on population by citizenship and by country of birth from the Register of Inhabitants of the SR. The population number does not include persons with the status of an asylum seeker, as asylum seekers are not granted the residence permit in the Slovak Republic. However, once a person is granted asylum, he/she automatically receives the permanent residence permit and is entered into the Register of Inhabitants of the SR and is included in the population number.

The Centre of Labour, Social Affairs and Family has supplied the Statistical Office of the SR with the first reference data on foreigners’ employment in the SR for the year 2004 according to Eurostat requirements. Data on the number of employed SR citizens can be drawn from the Labour Force Survey carried out by the SO SR.

The Statistical Office of the SR has obtained data on self-employed persons by citizenship since the year 2003 by linking its register of self-employed persons with the register of residence permits granted for the business purposes under the Bureau of Border and Aliens Police. The data are differentiated by regions, NACE, ISCO and by age, in accordance with the Eurostat requirements. In the future, it will be possible to draw the data from the Register of Inhabitants of the SR under the Ministry of Interior. The Migration Office supplies Eurostat with monthly data on asylum, and it sends them also to the Statistical Office of the SR.

The Bureau of Border and Aliens Police supplies the CIREFI (Centre d’information, de réflexion et d’échanges en matière de franchissement des frontières et d’immigration / Centre for Information, Discussion and Exchange on the Crossing of Frontiers and Immigration) with monthly data on illegal migration.

In the field of migration statistics, there is a close co-operation between the Statistical Office of the SR and the Czech Statistical Office; it is mainly because of the fact the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic formed a common state and shared a common history in the past. The contacts with the Czech partner involve exchange of experience from surveys and from implementation of required indicators. The SO SR also plans to exchange data on migration flows between Slovakia and the Czech Republic and to compare individual kinds of migration statistics.
D. Concepts and definitions

**Citizenship** is the key concept in data collection in the field of demographic and migration statistics. In the year 2004 the indicator of citizenship was implemented into the reports on all population events. From the reference year 2008 all demographic events is published by citizenship.

Information on **country of birth** is possible to obtain from census data. Also, the Central Register of Population and the Register of Foreigners of the Ministry of Interior of the SR collect the data on country of births.

There are some datasets using the concept of **(ethnic) nationality**. The data obtained on nationality are always based on self-declaration (i.e. a person can choose to declare or not to declare her/his nationality).

The concept of **colloquial language** is not used in Slovak datasets.

The concept of **country of usual residence** is not traditionally used in defining the population of the SR. The population has always been defined on the basis of a permanent residence in the country. Due to the international recommendations several changes have been made in the data processing for international migration, however permanent residence is still the only concept for defining the number of inhabitants of the SR. For international migration statistic purposes the concept of usual residence is used. In the Central Register of Population there is no information concerning the usual residence of either Slovak citizens or foreigners, however it is possible to compose it from collected data.

Information on **population with migrant background** is not accessible for the time being, although theoretically available (from the Register of Population, information can be gained on the country of birth and on citizenship as well. The census is another possibility.)

E. Availability of data

E.1. Core demographic data on immigrants and migration control

**E.1.a. Population stocks and general demographic characteristics (including citizenship, country of birth, year of immigration)**

There are two main sources of data on population stocks in the Slovak Republic. These are the Register of Population and the SO SR. Both of them use the same definition on the number of population, according to which only persons with permanent residence are involved into the number of inhabitants in the Slovak Republic.

Migration statistics for international purposes is constructed according to the requirements of the EU regulation on migration statistics and international protection. It is based on the concept of usual residence (the stay of immigrants and emigrants is, or is expected for one year or more). Statistics on immigrants includes Slovak citizens and foreigners with permanent residence permits, third country nationals with a residence visa for a period exceeding 90 days, third country nationals with temporary residence permit, EU-citizens with permanent residence and foreigners
who were granted asylum or temporary protection.

The Register of Population is part of the state information system, it includes a set of information on the Slovak Republic inhabitants based on which it is possible to identify a person, to find out his/her residence and relations to other persons and also to link other administrative information. The issues of reporting and registration of the citizens’ residence are regulated by the Act No. 253/1998 Coll. on reporting the Residence of Citizens of the Slovak Republic and on Register of Population of the Slovak Republic.

The Register of Population includes both current and historical data on a person. This way it is possible to find out changes of the person’s status in a given period or as of a given day in the past.

The PIN (personal identification number) is used as an identifier of individual data. However, the PIN can not be the only identifier as there are cases of duplicity of the PIN. In these cases a person is identified by combination of values of the following attributes: PIN, name, surname, maiden name. Moreover, within the Register of Population an unambiguous identifier is created for each personal record in the Register of Population.

The Register includes the following information on citizens with permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic:

- personal data:
  - name, surname, academic title, maiden name, PIN, date of birth, place of birth, district of birth, country of birth, sex, marital status, ethnic nationality, date and place of death;

- information on residence:
  1. permanent residence (date of registration, de-registration):
     - name of district, name of community, name of the part of community, name of street, orientation number, register number;
  2. temporary residence (date of registration, length of residence):
     - name of the district, name of the community, name of the part of community, name of street, orientation number, register number;

- information on relations to another persons:
  1. personal data of husband /wife:
     - name, surname, maiden name, PIN;
  2. personal data of father:
     - name, surname, maiden name, PIN;
  3. personal data of mother:
     - name, surname, maiden name, PIN;
  4. personal data of child:
     - first name, surname, maiden name, PIN;

- administrative information on the person:
  - number of identity card, number and type of travel document if issued,
information on the court’s decision related to the capability for legal acts, information on forbiddance of residence.

For those who do not have a permanent residence in the territory of the SR and for foreigners reported for a stay (e.g. applicants for stay permit) or for foreigners with asylum granted information on the stay is also registered as follows:

Slovenks living abroad:
- beginning of the stay abroad,
- country and place of stay,
- temporary residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic,
- information on the end of the permanent residence;

Foreigners reported for a stay or with asylum granted:
- whether tolerated stay (date of beginning of the stay, information on the end of tolerated stay)
- name of district, community, part of the community, street,
- orientation number, register number,
- number of flat,
- reason of stay.

The list given above represents the maximum set of items registered for a person. In some cases, not all of the data are available – they either do not exist at all (e.g. a person does not have an academic title), or they are unknown.

The Population Register has a three-level structure. The 2887 municipalities keep their own register of citizens and all information is sent to the District Directorates of the Police. These 79 directorates have an online access to the Central-Register of Inhabitants run in Banska Bystrica. All data on foreigner are transferred electronically to the register from the Information System of Foreigners.

The reporting duty by means of filled-in forms on residence is imposed to the citizen, or his/her legal representative, care-taker, head of social services facility, head or his/her authorised representative of the facility where institutional, or protective education takes place.

The registration of the residence of citizens means the registration of all citizens registered on permanent residence, permanent residence without address and with the community name, temporary residence and citizen’s residence abroad (citizen’s temporary residence abroad and if the citizen de-registers himself/herself from the permanent residence in the territory of the SR for the purpose of establishing permanent residence abroad), who are or were registered on residence by the Registration Office by means of the ‘Permanent Residence Registration Form’, ‘Temporary Residence Registration Form’, ‘Permanent Residence Deregistration Form’.

Citizens can register only one permanent residence and several temporary residences.
E.1.b. Migration flows

Data on migration flows for national purposes are gained based on the abovementioned statistical form Obyv 5-12. The administrative databases maintained by the Bureau of Border and Aliens’ Police are relevant sources for migration statistics used for international purposes.

The registration and de-registration of foreigners is provided through the registration of the residence of EU and EEA citizens and residence permits of foreigners (third country nationals).

The ‘Registration of Foreigners’ is kept by the Bureau of Border and Aliens’ Police of Presidium of the Police Force of the SR. This register in the information system of the Aliens’ Police includes data on:

- entry, stay and exit of foreigners,
- applicants for visa, granted or not granted visa,
- applicants for permit for stay, on foreigners with permit for stay and on rejected applications for permit for stay,
- applicants for issue of passport and travel identification document, and data on prolongation of these documents,
- foreigners, for whom the police section verified invitations and on persons inviting foreigners,
- undesirable persons,
- lost, stolen travel documents and data on travel documents, declared by the state authority that issued them, invalid or alienated.

The register of foreigners’ residence includes all foreigners who have the residence permit for the period of more than 3 months and the newborn babies born to foreigners in the SR. Asylum seekers are not included.

The register of foreigners is maintained by district offices of the Bureau of Border and Aliens’ Police. When the residence permit is granted to a foreigner, data are entered into the database and electronically transmitted to the central ‘Register of Foreigners’. Data contained in the ‘Register of Foreigners’ appears in the Register of Population: the two information systems are linked online, and registered data on a foreigner with the residence in the SR are automatically recorded in the Register of Population.

The collection of information on foreigner residence is carried out through paper forms or electronically. The information are collected by the forms ‘Application for Temporary Stay Permit’, ‘Application for the First Permanent Residence Permit’, ‘Application for Tolerated Residence Permit’, or ‘Application for Renewal of Temporary Residence Permit’, ‘Application for the Next Permanent Residence Permit’, ‘Application for Registration of Residence Permit of EEA Citizen’ (i.e. first / next residence permit), ‘Registration of the Slovak Living Abroad’. The type of application or registration form is highlighted.

E.1.c. Legal status of immigrants

In January 2005, the Government of the Slovak Republic adopted the concept of
migration policy, following international agreements on the topic, which the SR is bound to. In order to co-ordinate future activities resulting from the concept of migration policy, the Minister of Interior was put in charge with establishing a working commission of deputies of concerned ministries, the SR Government Office, the Statistical Office of the SR, the Office of United Nations’ High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Migration Organisation and the Slovak Helsinki Committee.

Recently, substantial changes in the system of granting and registration of residence permits took place. On 1 April 2002, a new Act No. 48/2002 Coll. on Stay of Aliens was put in force. By the adoption of that law, compliance has been achieved with the Constitution of the SR and with international agreements signed by the SR on the issues of family reunion, and migration and the stay of foreigners. The law gives a legislative basis for approximating migration legislation of the SR to legislation of the EU.

Also, an amendment has been made to the Act No. 253/1998 Coll. on Reporting the Residence of Citizens of the Slovak Republic and on Register of Inhabitants of the Slovak Republic. The law has been published unabridged as the law No. 500/2004 regulating

- rights and duties of the SR citizens at notifying their residence,
- rights and duties of municipalities in registering the SR citizens’ residence,
- establishing the Register of Inhabitants of the SR and
- supplying data from the Register of Inhabitants of the SR and from the Register of SR citizens´ residence.

By the amendment to the Act No. 40/1993 Coll. on Citizenship, approved in 2004, the conditions for the granting of the SR citizenship were amended, and some cases facilitating the acquisition of the SR citizenship were treated.

The amendment to Act No. 480/2002 Coll. on Asylum, effective from February 2005, reconciles migration and asylum legislation of the SR with legislation of the EU; it facilitates the entry of foreigners into the asylum procedure.

Regarding labour migration, according to the amendment to the Act No. 387/1996 on Employment, the employer should notify the Centre of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of all the foreigners he/she employs.

According to the Act no. 48/2002 Coll. alien is anyone who is not a citizen of the Slovak Republic.

A **temporary stay permit** shall not be required in the case of an alien who was granted the statute of a Slovak living abroad.

A temporary stay permit shall authorise an alien for staying on the territory of the SR and for travels abroad and back to the territory of the SR within the time period for which the temporary stay permit was granted to him/her by a police department.

Upon an alien’s request, a police department may grant a temporary stay permit for the time necessary for achieving the purpose of stay, however, maximally for two years, unless otherwise stipulated by the Act on stay of aliens. In the case of an alien with long-term stay, upon his/her request, the police department shall grant a temporary stay permit for the time necessary for achieving the purpose of stay, however, maximally for 5 years, provided that the requirements under the Act on stay
of aliens have been fulfilled.

A temporary stay permit shall be issued for one purpose only. Should the alien wish to perform an activity other than the one for which the temporary stay permit was granted, he/she must file a new application for a temporary stay permit.

A police department may grant a temporary stay permit to an alien for the purpose of:

- undertaking business,
- employment,
- studying,
- activities according to special programmes,
- maintaining family unity, or
- fulfilment of official duties by civil units of Armed Forces.

A police department may grant to an alien a temporary stay permit for the purpose of undertaking business only upon a business licence issued under a separate regulation “The Commercial Code”.

A police department may grant to an alien a temporary stay permit for the purpose of employment only upon a work permit. This shall not apply if the work permit is not required (Act No 5/2004 on employment services) or if provided by international treaty.

A police department may grant to an alien a temporary stay permit for the purpose of seasonal employment for the maximum of 180 days per calendar year.

A police department may grant a temporary stay permit for the purpose of studying to an alien, who is a student for an elementary school or who studies at a secondary school, secondary vocational school, training institution or university, or participates in a life-long education.

A police department may grant the temporary stay permit only to an alien who was admitted to a State school or a school recognised by the State.

A police department may grant to an alien a temporary stay permit for the purpose of activities according to special programmes, unless these activities are studying, scientific research, lecturing or artistic activities, or if it results from the programmes of the Government of the SR, or it is necessary for fulfilment of an obligation of the SR resulting from an international treaty.

A police department may grant a temporary stay permit for the purpose of maintaining family unity to an alien who is:

- a spouse of an alien with a temporary stay permit or with a permanent residence permit, provided that the spouse are at least 18-years old,
- a single child younger than 18 years of aliens with a temporary stay permit or of an alien with a temporary stay permit or his/her spouse or of a person granted asylum, or of a spouse of a person granted asylum, who takes care of the child based on law or based on a decision of the competent authority,
- an un-provided for child older than 18 years of an alien with a temporary stay permit or his/her spouse,
- a direct relative of a person granted asylum younger than 18 years,
• a single parent dependent on the care of an alien with a temporary stay permit, or on the care of an alien with a permanent residence permit or
• a dependant person pursuant to an international treaty.

A temporary stay permit for the purpose of fulfilment of official duties by civil units of Armed Forces shall be granted by a police department to an alien, who is a member of a civil unit of the sending State and who is in the service of these Armed Forces.

An alien shall file an application for a temporary stay permit personally, at a foreign mission in the State, which issued a travel document to him/her or at a foreign mission in the State of his/her residence. If such foreign mission does not exist, he/she shall file the application at the foreign mission determined by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after an agreement made with the Ministry of Interior.

The authority which admitted the application shall issue to the applicant a confirmation of the application's receipt on the day of its filing.

An alien shall file an application for a temporary stay permit on an official form.

A police department may renew a temporary stay permit
• for the maximum 180 days, when the temporary stay permit for the purpose of seasonal employment was granted for less than 180 days and termination of the work requires further stay,
• for the maximum of 3 years, when the expected stay of the alien will last for at least three years,
• for the maximum of 5 years, in the case of an alien with a long-term stay.

An alien shall file an application for renewal of a temporary stay permit personally, on an official form, at a police department. A police department shall issue to the applicant a confirmation of the application's receipt on the day of its filing.

A temporary stay permit shall terminate when
• an alien fails to enter the territory of the SR within 180 days from granting of the temporary stay permit,
• an alien notifies a police department in writing of termination of his/her stay,
• the validity of the aliens temporary stay permit expired,
• a punishment of expulsion was imposed on the alien
• the alien was administratively expelled,
• the alien was granted the citizenship of the Slovak Republic, or
• a police department revoked the aliens temporary stay permit.

A permanent residence permit shall authorise an alien for staying on the territory of the SR and for travels abroad and back to the territory of the SR within the time period for which the permanent residence permit was granted to him/her by a police department, unless otherwise stipulated by the Act 48/2002 on stay of Aliens and on Amendments and Modifications to Some Other Acts as amended.

Upon request, a police department may first grant a permanent residence permit for five years. After the lapse of five years, a police department may grant, upon another
request a permanent residence permit for an unlimited period of time.

A police department may grant the first permanent residence permit to an alien,

- who is a spouse of a citizen of the SR with permanent residence on the territory of the SR or a dependent direct relative of a citizen of the SR with permanent residence on the territory of the SR,
- who is a child younger than 18 years placed in custody of an alien, who is a spouse of a citizen of the SR with permanent residence on the territory of the SR,
- who is a single child younger than 18 years of an alien with a permanent residence permit or who is a child younger than 18 years placed in custody of an alien with a permanent residence permit,
- who is an un-provided - for child older than 18 years of an alien with a permanent residence permit, or
- when it is in the interest of foreign policy of the SR.

An alien shall file an application for the first permit on an official form. A police department may grant a subsequent permit to an alien

- who was granted the first permit,
- who was granted a temporary stay permit for the purpose of employment or undertaking business, or to his/her family member, or to a family member of an alien who was granted a permanent residence permit, provided that his/her previous continuous temporary stay immediately before the application's filing has lasted for at least five years.
- whose subsequent permit terminated for the grounds defined by the Act.

A permanent residence permit shall terminate when

- an alien fails to enter the territory of the SR within 180 days from granting of the permanent residence permit,
- an alien notifies a police department in writing of termination of his/her stay,
- the validity of the alien's first permit expired and he/she did not apply for a subsequent permit,
- a punishment of expulsion was imposed on the alien, the alien was administratively expelled,
- the alien was granted the citizenship of the SR,
- it is a subsequent permit for the purpose of employment and undertaking business and the alien was granted a long term stay permit or when he/she has stayed outside the territory of the SR for six year, or
- a police department revoked the alien's permanent residence permit.

The police section shall cancel the permanent residence permit, if

- they detect facts giving grounds for the rejection of the application for granting permanent residence permit,
- the alien is continuously abroad for more than 180 days, without a consent of the police section,
- they detect that the alien contracted a marriage with the aim of acquiring
a permanent residence permit,

- the alien has been granted permanent residence permit for the purpose of family reunification and his/her marriage expired within five years following granting the first permit,
- the alien stays continuously for the period of 12 successive months outside the territory of EEA countries,
- the alien states intentionally untrue or misleading data, submits forged or altered documents.

The following data are included in the first application for residence permit and registration of residence:

- data on respective person:
  surname, first name, academic degree, maiden name, previous surnames, day, month and year of birth, place of birth, state of birth, citizenship, ethnic nationality, marital status, passport, date of issuance, validity of the passport, issued by, purpose of residence, highest education attained, occupation, occupation before entry to the SR (name of enterprise, office), occupation after entry to the SR, post (address of enterprise, office, school), place of permanent residence in abroad, state, last residence, residence in the SR, accommodation, previous temporary or permanent residence in the SR (since-to, place of residence);

- data on husband / wife:
  surname, first name, maiden name, previous surnames, date of birth, place and country of birth, citizenship, permanent residence, residence in the SR;

- data on parents:
  father’s surname, name, date of birth, citizenship, residence;
  mother’s surname, name, maiden name, date of birth, citizenship, residence;

- data on children:
  surname and name, date and place of birth, citizenship, permanent residence, residence in the SR;

- data on brothers and sisters:
  surname and name, date and place of birth, citizenship, permanent residence;

- number of the Long-term Residence Document.

The police section shall grant a **permit for tolerated stay** to an alien,

- if there is a hindrance for his/her administrative expulsion pursuant to § 58,
- who has been granted temporary shelter,
- if his/her travelling leaving the country is not possible and there is no ground for his/her detention or,
who is unaccompanied minor found in the territory of the Slovak Republic.

A tolerated stay shall be deemed the time period of execution of custody or execution of imprisonment; this shall not apply if the alien stays on the territory of the Slovak Republic legitimately. A tolerated stay shall also be deemed the time period from withdrawal of an application for asylum until execution of the alien's voluntary return; a police department shall order to such alien a place of his/her stay.

Upon an alien’s request, a police department shall grant a tolerated stay permit for the maximum of 180 days according to the determined facts, which constitute the reason for it’s granting. The police department shall issue to the applicant a confirmation of the application's receipt on the day of its filing.

The police section may also repeatedly prolong the tolerated stay; thereby they are obliged to verify whether the grounds for granting permit continue. For this purpose they are entitled to require from the alien the submission of a document certifying the hindrance for his/her exit.

Upon the request filed by an alien who was granted a permit for “tolerated stay” because the administrative expulsion was hindered, a police department may grant a permit for temporary stay for the purpose of employment after the lapse of three years from granting the tolerated stay permit.

When the reason for which the tolerated stay was granted ceases to exist an alien shall be obliged to notify a police department within 15 days.

The police shall revoke a tolerated stay permit when the reason for which it had been granted ceases to exist.

The residence of the EEA citizen, who intends to stay in the territory of the SR for longer than 3 months, is considered as the residence on the base of the first permit, provided that

- he/she is employed,
- he/she conducts business,
- he/she studies at a state school or at a school accredited by the state and has financial resources for establishing residence and health insurance in the territory of the SR,
- has financial resources for establishing residence and health insurance in the territory of the SR, or, there is an assumption that he/she will get employment.

The residence of the EEA citizen shall be deemed as residence on the base of the next permit, provided that the EEA citizen

- has at least 5 years continuous residence,
- has at least 3 years continuous residence, which shall be deemed as residence on the base of the first permit.

The Centre of Labour, Social Affairs and Family under the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR produces statistics on labour migration. Act No. 5/2004 (Coll.) on Employment Services regulates foreigners’ employment in the Slovak Republic. According to the law, the work permits shall be issued for each foreign employee individually. Generally, granting the residence permit for the purpose of seeking employment is not encouraged.
Foreigners may enter with various types of visa:

- airport transit visa,
- transit visa,
- short term visa,
- long term visa.

A transit and short-term visa may also be granted as a group visa.

Long-term visa is essential from the point of view of the EU Regulation on migration statistics. This authorises entry and stay for more than 90 days in six months.

The visa will be issued upon request, by filling an application form which includes the following information:

- surname(s), first name(s), previous surname(s), name(s), date of birth (year, month, day), PIN (not compulsory), place and country of birth, current citizenship(s), previous citizenship(s), sex, marital status, father’s name and surname, mother’s name, surname and maiden name, kind of travel document, number of travel document, issued by, date of issuance, validity of the travel document;

- possibility to return to the country of residence;

- current occupation; name, address and the phone number of employer, or, in the case of students, the name and address of school; country (place) of destination, kind of visa, individual/group visa, requested number of entries, period of stay, other visa (issued within the last 3 years, and the period of visa validity);

- in the case of transit, permit for entry to the final destination;

- previous residences in the SR, purpose of the travel, date of arrival, date of departure, place of the first entry or transit route, means of transport, name of the host or company in the SR and contact person in host company. name of hotel, or temporary address in the SR;

- the name of the person paying for costs of travelling and of living during the stay;

- spouse’s name, date of birth, place of birth, children;

- personal data of the citizen of the SR the applicant depends on;

- name, date of birth, citizenship, number of travel document, relationship of SR citizen, applicant’s address, phone number, place and date.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs keeps a register in its information system, including data on applicants for visa and on visa granted or denied, with a linkage to the registers of the Ministry of Interior.

**E.1.d. Change of citizenship**

For the granting and the loss of the citizenship of the SR the reporting unit is the Ministry of Interior of the SR, Department of Citizenship and Civil Registers.

The application for granting the citizenship of the SR is filed by the applicant to a local regional office. In addition to the submission of the required documents, the applicant shall fill in a questionnaire. The regional office delivers the completed
application to the MI SR. When deciding in favour of the applicant the MI SR delivers the certificate of naturalisation to the regional office. The regional office hands over the certificate of naturalisation to the applicant, enters a respective record into the regional register and informs the MI SR. The MI SR makes a record on the acquisition of the citizenship of the SR to the Population Register.

Once a month, the MI SR provides the Organisation for Public Administration Informatics (IPA Košice) with an electronic list of persons that have acquired the citizenship of the SR. The IPA Košice aggregates data supplied by regional offices and puts them in the Central Register of the Acquisition of the Citizenship of the SR kept by the MI SR. The Central Register is accessible to the regional offices.

The Central Register of the Acquisition of the Citizenship of the SR includes the following data:

- name, date of birth, place of birth (community + state), current citizenship, address of residence at the time of granting the citizenship of the SR, number of decision, and the date of acquisition of the citizenship of the SR, date of issuance of the certificate of naturalisation, date of receipt of the certificate of naturalisation, legal title of the acquisition of the, authority which made decision.

The application for releasing from the state bond of the SR is filed by an applicant through the foreign mission of the SR with a respective regional office.

The regional office decides on releasing the applicant from the state bond of the SR. The foreign mission hands over the certificate to the applicant then informs the regional office. The latter indicates the loss of the SR citizenship in the Population Register. Once a month, the regional office transmits electronically the list of persons having lost the citizenship of the SR to the IPA Košice which merges the data from regional offices and puts them in the Central Register of the Loss of the Citizenship of the SR kept by the MI SR.

The Central Register of the Loss of the SR Citizenship includes the following data:

- name, date of birth, place of birth (community + state), address at the time of the loss of the SR citizenship, state of handling the file, authority which made decision, date of issuance of the certificate of releasing the applicant from the state bond of the SR, date of receipt of the certificate, legal title of the loss of the SR citizenship.

The Act No. 40/1993 Coll. on Citizenship and Amendment of Some Acts defines conditions of acquisition and loss of citizenship of the Slovak Republic.

Until 1968, only Czechoslovak citizenship was recognised. Following the establishment of the federation, in 1969, all Czechoslovak citizens also had a republican nationality, as “Czechs” or “Slovaks” according to their birth place if born before January 1, 1954. For those born after this date, citizenship was determined by the status of their parents.

According to the law adopted following the separation of the former Czechoslovak federal state in 1993 (Act No 40/1993 Coll. On the Acquisition and Loss of Slovak Citizenship) the acquisition of Slovakian citizenship might be provided

- by determination (for the former “Slovaks”) and also
- by simple declaration (for citizens of the Czech Republic, if the application was
lodged up to 31st December 1993).

In other cases, Slovak citizenship may be acquired by:

- **birth:**
  
  if at least one of the parents is a citizen of the Slovak Republic,
  
  the child was born on the territory of the Slovak Republic, of parents being stateless,
  
  the child was born on the territory of the Slovak Republic, of parents not being citizens SR, but the child does not by birth gain the citizenship of either of the parents,

- adoption,

- naturalisation – applicants had to demonstrate a five year continuous stay in the country without criminal offences and knowledge of the Slovak language.

There are exceptions to the rules and special terms of granting Slovak citizenship which could be applied in the following cases:

- person who married with a Slovak citizen
- person with the status of foreign Slovak,
- for reasons worth of a special attention, i.e. if a person has done something of great benefit for the Slovak Republic in the field of economy, science, culture or technology.

Double citizenship is possible.

Since October 2007 the prerequisites of naturalisation became stricter: eight years of residence in general case, five years in case of marriage, four years for asylum and three years for ethnic Slovaks is required: The reason was to examine the applicants for the Slovak citizenship more thoroughly concerning danger of growing organised crime and international terrorism.

**E.1.e. Asylum seeking and refugees**

The terms of international protection are defined by the Act No. 480/2002 Coll. on Asylum. The amendment of this Act, which came into the force in 2007, harmonised national law with international by transposition of Council directive No. 2004/83/EC and No. 2004/81/EC.

The administrative data source was updated with regard to amendment to the law on asylum, which takes into account the terms of international protection and supplementary protection.

In 2008, in connection with the transposition of the Directive 2005/71/EC on a specific procedure for admitting third-country nationals for the purposes of scientific research, several amendments were made to the Act on Stay of Aliens. The amendment specifically concerned the legal status of foreign nationals studying and conducting scientific and research activities in the SR. The asylum was substantially changed by transposing the Council Directive 2005/85/EC on minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing refugee status.

The information system of the Migration Office of the MI SR named ´Refugee´ is the
administrative source of data on international protection.

The Migration Office of the MI SR is the reporting unit for the information system ‘Refugee’, which is in operation since 2003. Information is continuously entered into the online system on the basis of the foreigner’s announcement supplied to the Migration Office by asylum departments of the Bureau of Border and Aliens’ Police.

Further information concerning the asylum procedure is entered into the system by the staff of the various departments of the organisation. Information on movement of asylum seekers in reception and accommodation centres, in case of their transfer, or in case when they are granted long-term, or short-term permits are entered into the system.

The following data are registered:

- Basic data:
  - name, sex, date of birth, citizenship, nationality, religion, date of filing announcement, border crossing, code of the family + family relationship, ground for application, separated child, reclassification of the applicant case to DUBLIN, prolongation of the period, dead-lines for finalising records, terminated quarantine, Eurodac.

- The description of the Dublin procedure.
- The description of asylum procedure.

The decisions are differentiated as follows: granted asylum, non-granted asylum, rejected asylum applications and stopped asylum procedures.

At present, the Migration Office can provide statistical information on:

- overview of asylum seekers from the year 1992 differentiated by finished procedures,
- monthly and annual data on the structure of asylum applications by citizenship and by type of finished procedure (granted asylum, non-granted asylum, rejected application, cessation of the asylum procedure),
- structure of asylum applications by citizenship, age, sex,
- structure of asylum applications by nationality,
- overview of granted asylum and citizenships granted asylum seekers in the territory of the SR since 1992,
- overview of unaccompanied minors -asylum seekers in the territory of the SR by citizenship and age.

The Migration Office is implementing a new project of the common information system of migration statistics that will provide more detailed statistical information on asylum seekers in the territory of the SR. The Bureau of Border and Aliens’ Police of Presidium of the Police Force will be online linked to this information system.

**E.1.f. Irregular migration**

Information system of illegal migration is a database managed by the Bureau of Border and Aliens’ Police. The system contains information on illegal crossing of state border and illegal stay in the territory of the SR, pursuant to Act No. 48/2002
The database contains:

- the date and time of event,
- the direction in which the state border was crossed (in – out of the SR),
- the place where the state border was crossed,
- the place of event,
- the person who detained illegal migrant,
- the illegal migrant’s name and surname,
- the illegal migrant’s date of birth,
- the illegal migrant’s sex,
- the illegal migrant’s citizenship,
- the way of case treatment.

E.2 Measuring integration, discrimination and diversity

E.2.a Existing data sources on integration, discrimination and diversity

Integration of foreigners has not been a central topic in the SR until recently. Considering the relatively small number of immigrants, it is not surprising. Still, the elaboration of a comprehensive policy can not be postponed any more. As a part of this, an appropriate monitoring system on the integration of foreigners is needed. The basis for such a monitoring system is more or less given: various administrative data sources complemented with surveys focusing on migrants could provide the grounds.

The Population and Housing Census is an important source concerning employment, housing, education, family, household of the migrants, but of course, it has certain limits. The most serious problem is that it is conducted in every ten years only.

Concerning employment, the LFS has comprehensive information, but the coverage is questionable in the case of immigrants. Still, some of the existing administrative sources as the Information Systems of the MLSAF SR on the Employed Foreigners and on State Social Support contain suitable data to analyse integration (employment-unemployment, profession, present job, type of support).

The EU-SILC is highly relevant concerning the incomes and transfers, but immigrants are hardly visible in the small samples. Again, several administrative data sources could be used in this field. The database of the tax administration is of primary importance.

The Ministry of Health maintains registers on health conditions of the population and on utilisation of health services with information on citizenship and/or place of birth. The same institution compiles statistics on foreigners using the healthcare system of the SR. The register of insured persons at the Health Care Surveillance Authority could also be an information source.

Educational attainments and participation in education are important indicators of the integration of foreigners. Ministry of Education compiles statistics on foreign students and pupils, and the information system on employed foreigners of the MLSAF SR is also a valuable source in this regard. The LFS must be mentioned here too, in spite of its serious limits outlined above.

The Ministry of Justice maintains registers on convicted persons and persons in pre-trial detention and in prison. Appropriate statistics on foreigners in relation with crime could be based on these sources together with some datasets of the police or the Ministry of the Interior.

In the recent years more focus has been put on the topic of migration, and several surveys have been carried out addressing integration and discrimination. Substantial examples are the research projects being carried out by the Institute for Public Affairs.
E.2.b Recent administrative measures in relation with the integration of foreigners

At the end of 2007, the Department of Migration and Integration of Foreigners (DMIF) under the International Relations Section of the MLSAF SR was created. DMIF fulfils the function of a co-ordination centre for the issues of labour migration and integration of foreigners. Its responsibility covers the preparation of policies and concepts for labour migration and integration of foreigners into the society at an inter-departmental level.

In 2008, changes occurred in the development of national policy with regard to the integration of foreigners. Considering the raising number of immigrants in the Slovak Republic after its accession to the European Union as well as recognising the necessity to admit migrant workers from third countries, a comprehensive document had to be adopted in order to respond to the new challenges in migration. The Government of the SR therefore assigned the Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, the Deputy-prime Minister and the Minister of Interior the task “to take effective measures to ensure the process of the integration of migrants into the society with an emphasis on an efficient use of financial resources from the European Union funds and sources”\(^1\).

The Department of Migration and Integration of Foreigners of the MLSAF SR dealt specifically with the preparation of the draft concept of integration of foreigners. This activity was undertaken in co-operation with the representatives of state administration and self-governments, non-governmental organisations, communities of migrants living in the SR and the academic circles. The Department of Migration and Integration of Foreigners of the MLSAF SR via its Inter-departmental Commission on Labour Migration and Integration of Foreigners established five working sub-groups for the preparation of the concept of integration of foreigners in the SR. Sub-groups have been set up for legislation, residence, employment and access to the labour market, healthcare and social security, education and housing issues. The first draft of the integration concept prepared in 2008, implemented the recommendation of the European integration policy adopted by the working group “National Contact Points on Integration” at the Committee for Immigration and Asylum of the European Commission. The Committee was regularly attended by a representative of the MLSAF SR, as well as the conclusions of several expert seminars on social and labour integration of migrants organised by the European Commission under the INTI project (Integration of Third Country Nationals).

A Proposal of Conception of Foreigners’ Integration in the SR (Návrh koncepcie integrácie cudzincov v Slovenskej republike) was approved by Government Resolution No. 338/2009 on 06 May 2009.

\(^1\) See Government Resolution No. 390 of 11 June 2008.
F. Quality and Scope of data collection

Sample surveys are generally not satisfactory tools for measuring migration and integration. This fact is due to some methodological problems concerning the sample size or the lack of representativeness (as we could see in the case of LFS in Section 1.). Administrative data sources have an increasing significance in the migration statistics in Europe. Certain countries are planning the next census to be carried out register-based. Data collection systems and policies are not so developed in the SR, but of course, the country is not standing alone with this problem.

The efficient usage of the administrative data for (migration) statistical purposes depends on two sets of conditions. One is the quality of the administrative data itself. The other is the legal and technical possibility to generate statistically useful data by the existing data sources; we will address this latter question in the next two sections.

As for the quality of administrative data, these data sources are not primarily for backing the migration statistics. The concepts used are hardly suitable for fine distinctions. However, there are a lot of datasets often with high-quality data in which foreigners can be separately handled. By linking these data sources valuable information can be gained on the topic. Regarding that there are only a few agents to access these sources for statistical purposes, the role of the SO SR in migration statistics is hard to overestimate.

Authorised by the law on State Statistics (Act no. 540/2001), the SO SR can claim for a wide range of data from the administrative bodies. This fact is crucial for the statistics, as – for instance – along the concepts of citizenship or country of birth substantial information can be gained in relation with the migration and integration. But the linkage of the available datasets by identification numbers is not common and the prevailing concepts – as the abovementioned citizenship and country of birth – are in many cases not the most suitable ones for the analysis of migration and integration.

G. Accessibility of Data

Although the Act no. 211/2000 and its amendments implement the principles of the freedom of information, the accessibility of the migration-related data is highly limited in the SR. However, as it is outlined in the sections above, the SO SR has a good access to the administrative data sources through the statistical reports. Beside the use of the standard statistical forms (Obyv 1-5/12) several procedures have been worked out for gaining valuable data for statistical purposes from the normal work of some governmental institutions such as the various bodies of the Ministry of the Interior.

Other potential users (not belonging to the statistical service) usually have serious problems with acquiring the data needed. Aggregated data are available on the website of the SO SR free of charge. Special outputs, which are not commonly published, are for a fee. Primary data from surveys are provided only for authorised institutions.

The supply of the data of the SO SR on the web has been expanding. Almost all available data from the demographic statistics and data on vital statistics and
migration on the level of municipalities (LAU 2) can be obtained. Since the reference year 2004, Statistical Office of the SR published also information on international migration on the basis of usual residence named: “International Migration and Foreigners in the Slovak Republic”. This information are processed and published only on the level NUTS 1.

Direct access to the administrative data is most likely impossible except for some governmental bodies. According to our experience, even gaining meta-information on the datasets maintained by the administration is highly problematic. This situation is due to the lack of the appropriate legal framework, practice and techniques. As in other countries in the region, a general obstacle of the emergence of the principles of the freedom of information in the daily practice is the prevailing bureaucracy and the lack of transparency.

Recently, some progress has been made in implementing the principles of the EU directive on the re-use of Public Sector Information (PSI). The government announced its commitment to the directive. In order to define more clearly the obligations of the institutions of public administration, amendments to the Act on Freedom of Information are under consideration.

H. Conclusions and Recommendations

To date the most serious problem with the data sources related to the question of migration and integration in the SR is the inaccessibility. Researchers must face insurmountable obstacles when trying to reach the existing data in a research field typically forced to rely on various sources.

Surveys can provide some information, but when addressing the whole population, the immigrants will be almost invisible because of the small numbers they represent. In addition the decennial survey (census) is not frequent enough to satisfy the information needs on a rapidly changing phenomenon like migration. Surveys directed to the total population with a sample size large enough to give information on immigrants are not only difficult to design but also very expensive to carry out. Targeted research on the population might provide valuable information on some topics as migration history and plans, perceived xenophobia, social, economic and also demographic characteristics but hardly gives a solid basis for estimating the numbers.

The best results could be achieved by using both surveys and administrative data sources. Moreover, for factors such as demographical features or flow numbers, the administrative data provide the primary and most suitable tools to measure. Social and economic characteristics of migrants and the whole population might be compared using sample surveys on migrants and the whole population.

The administrative sources might provide valuable information not only for migration research, but for decision-makers and non-governmental organisations as well. The efficiency of policies largely depends on the knowledge of the situation, which demands the availability of good-quality data.

More public dialogues, expert discussions are needed in the topic to assess the role of migration and integration and their economic, social, cultural aspects. It seems that
something has already begun in this respect.

It is important to adjust the practice of the data collection to the requirements of the times. The principles of PSI directive should be built in the legislation with appropriate sanctions and should emerge in daily practice. As it is sketched above, little progress has been made in this field. The government should adopt a more differentiated view on using administrative data and openness is needed on the part of the administrative bodies.

Steps should be made towards the improvement of the data collection systems in order to serve better the secondary use while performing the primary tasks.
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<td>Statistics on acquisitions of citizenship</td>
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<td>Centre of Labour, Social Affairs and Family</td>
<td>Information system on Employed Foreigners</td>
<td>Register</td>
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<td>Information system of State social support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
<td>National Registry of Hospitalised Patients</td>
<td>Counts</td>
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<td>National registry of abortions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry of Education</td>
<td>Statistics on foreign pupils and students</td>
<td>Counts</td>
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<td>Register of university students</td>
<td>Register (administrative)</td>
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<td>Ministry of Justice</td>
<td>Register of convicted persons</td>
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<td>Register of persons in pre-trial detention and prisons</td>
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<td>Register of trade licences</td>
<td>Register (administrative)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Care Surveillance Authority</td>
<td>Central register of insured persons</td>
<td>Register (administrative)</td>
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