

## Information sheet 1

### Stages in the development of integration indicators

Indicators have gradually gained importance in EU debates on general socio-economic participation and later on immigrant integration. The Common Basic Principles for immigrant integration policy in the EU, adopted by the Justice and Home Affairs Council on 19 November 2004<sup>1</sup>, stated among other things that developing clear goals, indicators and evaluation mechanisms are necessary to adjust policy, evaluate progress on integration and to make the exchange of information more effective.

In 2009, a German government conference in Berlin surveyed national experiences in monitoring integration and integration policy, and the Swedish Presidency Malmö Conference Conclusions<sup>2</sup> defined a list of core areas and indicators, which are based on the Common Basic Principles and EU indicators in the EU2020 Strategy<sup>3</sup>, covering four core areas of integration: employment, education, social inclusion, and active citizenship. In each area, Member States agreed to focus on a few core indicators that are simple to understand, easy to communicate, comparable over time and for which a certain outcome is desirable. The selection of indicators was based on the availability and quality of comparable data. In total, 14 core indicators were proposed together with a few indicators to be developed, which Member States also considered important to monitor although comparable data was still lacking.

The 2010-2014 Stockholm Programme committed the European Commission and Member States to develop a limited number of core **indicators** about the results of integration policies. The 2010 Zaragoza meeting<sup>4</sup> of the ministers responsible for integration adopted these EU indicators, which were then approved at the Justice and Home Affairs Council on 3-4 June 2010. The Council also agreed for the Commission to launch "a pilot project with a view to the evaluation of integration policies, including examining the indicators and analysing the significance of the defined indicators taking into account the national contexts, the background of diverse migrant populations and different migration and integration policies of the Member States, and reporting on the availability and quality of the data from agreed harmonised sources necessary for the calculation of these indicators."

Eurostat's 2011 pilot study<sup>5</sup> addressed the availability and quality of data from harmonised sources for the calculation of the 15 indicators, for which comparable data could be compiled. It also published a statistical portrait of the first and second generation. Subsequently, the Commission has launched the present series of seminars and papers to analyse the relevance and results of these indicators, in line with the above mentioned 2010 Council conclusions on integration.

The Commission's July 2011 European Agenda for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals<sup>6</sup> sees common indicators as a way to systematically monitor the integration situation and EU2020 targets, enhance policy coordination and make recommendations in dialogue with the Member States. The Justice and Affairs Council also again invited the Commission in its conclusions<sup>7</sup> on the European Agenda on 13-14 December 2011 to further develop "a monitoring system including appropriate data collection and analysis to monitor the degree of integration (outcomes of policies) based on agreed common indicators, recognising the principle of subsidiarity."

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms\\_Data/docs/pressData/en/jha/82745.pdf#zoom=100](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/jha/82745.pdf#zoom=100)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.se2009.eu/polopoly\\_fs/1.28600!menu/standard/file/Indicators%20and%20monitoring%20of%20outcome%20of%20integration%20policies.pdf](http://www.se2009.eu/polopoly_fs/1.28600!menu/standard/file/Indicators%20and%20monitoring%20of%20outcome%20of%20integration%20policies.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms\\_Data/docs/pressData/en/ec/113591.pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/ec/113591.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/10/st09/st09248.en10.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY\\_OFFPUB/KS-RA-11-009/EN/KS-RA-11-009-EN.PDF](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-RA-11-009/EN/KS-RA-11-009-EN.PDF)

<sup>6</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/news/intro/docs/110720/1\\_EN\\_ACT\\_part1\\_v10.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/news/intro/docs/110720/1_EN_ACT_part1_v10.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms\\_data/docs/pressdata/en/jha/126889.pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/jha/126889.pdf)