


# National strategy for the deinstitutionalisation of social services

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN

 POLAND

## Timeline

2020 Design

2021 Legislative process

2022 Approved/Agreed

ID number 39746

## Background

In European countries, supported by the EU, the deinstitutionalisation of social services has been taking place. It means a gradual departure from organising services for dependent people in favour of services being provided in family and local community contexts. Preference is given to solutions aimed at providing various forms of care closest to the social environment of a given person.

For many years, the deinstitutionalisation of social services has also been happening in Poland, but with varying intensity and speed depending on, for example, the area of social services and the type of institution or region. It affects a wide range of target groups, including children and young people in foster care, who also face many education challenges.

In 2020 and 2021, efforts were intensified to include this issue in the country's social policy objectives, initiating work on the development of a strategy document in this area. Such a document is also required by relevant EU guidelines and regulations.

## Objectives

Actions undertaken by the Ministry of Family and Social Policy in 2020 are aimed at directing and intensifying activities to support the deinstitutionalisation of social services in Poland, i.e. better matching the care and support of dependent people with their needs, including those of children and young people in various forms of foster care.

## Description

Since 2020, work has intensified on the preparation of a national strategy for the deinstitutionalisation of social services in Poland. On 12 January 2020, the Minister for Family and Social Policy appointed a team for the development of the strategy for the deinstitutionalisation of social services in Poland, which is an auxiliary body to the minister. The strategy is to be finalised and presented to the minister by 30 April 2021.

The tasks of the team include the development of the strategy, taking into account the needs of people with disabilities, people with mental disorders, the elderly, families, children and youth, including those in foster care, as well as the homeless.

In 2021, at the initiative of the President of the Republic of Poland, the deinstitutionalisation forum was also initiated as a platform for the exchange of experiences of experts involved in activities for the socialisation, empowerment and personalisation of social services. It was established in response to an open letter addressed to the President of the Republic of Poland in autumn 2020 by the scientific community, local government units and non-governmental organisations representing groups that should be included in the deinstitutionalisation process.

The first meeting took place in February 2021 and was attended by the signatories of the letter.

### **2020 Design**

Developing the diagnosis of problems and challenges for the purposes of the national strategy for the deinstitutionalisation of social services.

### **2021 Legislative process**

In the last quarter of 2021, the Minister for Family and Social Policy started the social consultations of the proposed deinstitutionalisation strategy – the Strategy for the development of social services, the public policy for 2021-35.

### **2022 Approved/Agreed**

The strategy was adopted by the Council of Ministers on 15 June and its implementation started. Some strategic goals of the document are dedicated to the vocational reintegration of people with disabilities and their guardians and of those with psychological disorders and in psychological crises.

## **Bodies responsible**

- Minister for Family and Social Policy

## **Target group**

### **Learners**

Learners at risk of early leaving or/and early leavers

Learners with disabilities

Learners from other groups at risk of exclusion (minorities, people with fewer opportunities due to geographical location or social-economic disadvantaged position)

## **Thematic categories**

### **Governance of VET and lifelong learning**

Coordinating VET and other policies

### **Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation**

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

## **Subsystem**

IVET

## **Further reading**

Regulation No 1 and No 5 of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of 19 February 2021 amending the regulation on establishing a team for the development of the strategy for the deinstitutionalisation of social services in Poland

---

Official Journals of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy - 2021

---

President's speech at the forum devoted to the development of community-based social services

---

The Strategy for the development of social services, the public policy for 2021-35 proposed for public consultations

---

The Strategy for the development of social services, the public policy for 2021-35 adopted by the Council of Ministers


## Related policy developments

---

**2025 Implementation**

### Strategies supporting pupils and students with disabilities

The Accessibility Plus programme indicates the following actions for vocational education:

 POLAND

**Type of development**

Strategy/Action  
plan

**Subsystem**

IVET

---

---

**2019 Completed**

### Measures for NEETs

Since 2016, expanded measures for NEETs have been provided to a large extent through the activities of labour offices at national and regional level, including ESF co-funded initiatives.

 POLAND

**Type of development**

Practical  
measure/Initiative

**Subsystem**

IVET

---

“ … ” **Cite as**

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). National strategy for the deinstitutionalisation of social services: Poland. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2025 update) [Online tool].

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/39746>