GŁOS MIGRANTA

Media kit · as of 17 October 2026 · glos-migranta.eu

Głos Migranta - "The Migrant's Voice"

Who we are

A grassroots initiative of foreigners living and working lawfully in Poland whose residence cases are pending before provincial offices. We are not an organisation, a party, or a representative body of any diaspora. We have no external funding.

One thing connects us: the queue at the same office.

The publication of 16-17 October 2026

Eight reports based solely on letters from public offices and courts, and an archive of 1,254 documents (738 letters and 516 attachments to them). Each of our letters links to the authorities' replies, and each reply links to the letter it answers. Everything is at **glos-migranta.eu**; all materials may be copied, printed and quoted without asking. The full press release describes the whole publication.

- **Rulings from another story** - 520 references to case law in the offices' letters, checked in the rulings database: 10 case numbers from unrelated fields, 13 rulings that speak against the office.
- **A court answers in six days. An office does not have to** - the same law, two institutions: courts 31 of 31 requests within 14 days (median 6), offices 60 demands, 36 extensions and 37 refusals; in the three largest courts 98.5% of complaints about inaction in residence cases concern the voivode.
- **One request, sixteen answers** - the same letter to sixteen voivodes and sixteen different reactions.
- **What the state knows about itself** - the audit office has reported delays since 2019; the ministry has tables of processing times and allocates EU AMIF money by them.
- **Sixteen offices in numbers** - procedure times, pending cases and court complaints by voivodeship.
- **The ponaglenie nobody examines** - urging complaints left unexamined, Article 100d, the positions of the Supreme Administrative Court and the Interior Ministry.
- **EU money from FAMI** - approx. 247 million zł and 138 indicators, none of which is about time.
- **How the person asking becomes the accused** - refusals justified by an assessment of the person asking.
- **Ranking of offices' replies** - a score per letter we sent; a sample of 9-19 letters per office, not an evaluation of the office's work.
- **Cases** - 148 cases letter by letter. **Quotes** - 53 verbatim quotes from the authorities' letters.
- **Document archive** - 1,254 files with private persons' data removed (officials' names and positions remain). The authorities' electronic signatures were removed; each document carries the SHA-256 hash of the signed original, and signed originals are available to journalists and courts for verification on request.
- **The Mazovian Voivode's reply to the petition** (20.09.2026) set against the documents, and **how the data have been used** - where these documents went: the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Supreme Audit Office, the Ombudsman, a complaint to the Prime Minister about the Interior Ministry's lack of supervision, and more.

What this is about - in three sentences

Since 1 January 2023 - and before that, from April 2022, under Article 100c - the running of statutory deadlines for provincial governors to decide residence cases has been suspended, and foreigners have been deprived of effective legal remedies against administrative inaction: the *ponaglenie* (a formal reminder to the higher authority) and the complaint for inaction before an administrative court.

The measure was introduced as exceptional and temporary; its end date has been moved six times, most recently to 4 March 2027.

The Supreme Administrative Court refuses to apply the provision as unconstitutional, and the Interior Ministry wrote to the Ombudsman that "istnieje wysokie prawdopodobieństwo" (there is a high probability) that a court will "odmówi zastosowania tego przepisu i rozpozna skargę z jego pominięciem" (refuse to apply the provision and examine the complaint disregarding it; original Polish wording, our translation) - yet the provision remains in force.

Six numbers

Statutory deadline for a temporary residence decision	**60 days**
Average procedure time in 2026: shortest to longest voivodeship	**242 - 658 days**
Voivodeships where the time is longer than in 2023	**15 of 16**
Complaints about inaction upheld by judgment: 2020 / 2025	**94.5% / 29.5%**
FAMI money (2024 agreements and 2026 applications) / indicators about time	**approx. 247 million zł / 0 of 138**
Times the end date of the "temporary" suspension has been moved	**6**

In addition: in October 2025 the Interior Ministry reported 463,487 pending temporary residence and work cases, with an average time of 341 days (reply to interpellation no. 12584). Sources: Interior Ministry, interpellation no. 18089 (times); the Supreme Administrative Court's "Statystyki WSA" (complaints); lists from the Interior Ministry's European Projects Centre (FAMI). Every figure has a reference in the reports.

Our demands

1. Repeal Article 100d

Repeal of Article 100d of the Act of 12 March 2022 on Assistance to Ukrainian Citizens (Dz.U. 2025 poz. 337, as amended).

We are not asking for faster decisions or for any privilege. We are asking for the restoration of a legal remedy available to every other party to administrative proceedings in Poland: the *ponaglenie* to the Head of the Office for Foreigners (art. 37 § 1 of the Code of Administrative Procedure), the complaint for inaction before an administrative court (art. 3 § 2(8) of the Law on Proceedings before Administrative Courts), the authority's duty to notify a party that its case will not be decided on time, and the court's power to fine the authority (art. 149 § 2).

Addressed to: the Sejm (repeal requires an act of parliament) and the Ministry of the Interior.

2. Increase staffing

Raise staffing in foreigners' affairs departments to a level that allows statutory deadlines to be met, and set a maximum caseload per official.

Benchmark: according to the Supreme Audit Office (NIK audit P/23/069, p. 32), at the end of 2022 there were from 189 residence applications per employee (Subcarpathian Office) to 500 (Łódź Office); the Greater Poland Office, according to its own data cited by the Commissioner for Human Rights, had 1,325 cases per employee in 2022. NIK also found that newly hired officials in the audited offices were offered 53-64% of the national average wage, and in four of the five offices 40.8% of recruitments ended without a contract being signed - the number of posts alone will not suffice without raising pay.

Addressed to: the Ministry of the Interior, provincial governors, the Head of the Office for Foreigners.

3. Publish the data

Regular publication, broken down by provincial office, of: the number of cases pending, average processing time, the number of posts and salary levels in foreigners' affairs departments, and a timetable for clearing the backlog.

Aggregate data only. We are not seeking parties' personal data, individual salaries, or any information about vetting conducted by the security services.

Publication requires no legislative change and no budget outlay.

Addressed to: the Ministry of the Interior, the Head of the Office for Foreigners.

Why three demands, not one

Repealing Article 100d will not clear the queues - it will restore the price of inaction. As long as an authority faces no consequence for missing a deadline, there is no incentive to increase staffing. The Supreme Administrative Court put it the same way: a problem arising from case volume should be solved by adapting staffing, not by prolonging a provision that restricts rights.

The third demand makes it possible to verify whether the second has been met.

Background: the assembly and the petition

On 24 August 2026, around 300 people took part in an assembly outside the Masovian Provincial Office in Warsaw; the same day a petition was submitted to the Mazovian Voivode. The assembly was non-partisan, with no national or party symbols. The Voivode classified the petition as a request under art. 241 of the Code of Administrative Procedure and did not uphold any of the three demands (Article 100d, staffing and FAMI funds, publishing statistics); the reply is published in full.

Quotes from the authorities' letters

Verbatim (original Polish), from documents in the archive:

> "W ocenie Wojewody Pomorskiego działania [wnioskodawcy] mają na celu oderwanie jak największej liczby pracowników organu od realizacji ustawowych zadań, by jeszcze bardziej pogłębić problemy związane z legalizacją pobytu cudzoziemców na terytorium Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej." - Voivode of Pomerania, WSC-IV.1331.20.2026.PJ, 30.09.2026

> "Głęboko wierzymy w Państwa wyrozumiałość względem zaistniałej – tymczasowej – sytuacji" - Silesian Voivodeship Office, page for foreigners, as of 26.08.2026

When quoting, please attribute to: the Głos Migranta initiative.

Media contact

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For interviews and for access to originals for verification, please write to the address above.

Community chat: t.me/glosmigranta