Warsaw, 17 October 2026

A court answers in six days, an office cites a ruling on military exercises: eight reports and 1,254 official documents

Głos Migranta has published eight reports based solely on letters from public offices and courts, and an archive of 1,254 documents (738 letters and 516 attachments) from which every figure comes. Each of our letters links to the authorities' replies, and each reply links to the letter it answers.

Sixteen regional administrative courts answered 31 of 31 requests for data within the statutory 14 days (median: 6 days), without a single demand to prove "particular significance", deadline extension or refusal decision. The offices, in 148 cases: 60 such demands, 36 extensions and 37 refusal decisions; the voivodes gave a substantive answer on time to 28 of 118 requests. The court requests were simpler, so we compare behaviour, not the number of days.

In their refusals the offices cited case law 520 times, 179 different rulings. We checked each one in the Central Database of Administrative Court Rulings: under 10 case numbers there are cases from unrelated fields (military exercises, an expressway, a soldier's housing allowance, property left beyond the Bug River), and in 13 cases the cited ruling says something that speaks against the office. In 15 of 16 voivodeships a temporary residence procedure takes longer today than in 2023: from 242 to 658 days against 60 in the statute (Interior Ministry, interpellation no. 18089). At the same time the ministry writes that in 2024-2026 it took no supervisory action towards the voivodes on this.

Eight reports (in Polish, English, Russian, Ukrainian and Belarusian)

- Rulings from another story - 520 references to case law in the offices' letters, checked in the rulings database.
- A court answers in six days. An office does not have to - the same law, two institutions; the court registers show that 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 - time, pending cases and complaints by voivodeship.
- The ponaglenie nobody examines - how offices leave reminders unexamined by citing Article 100d, which the Supreme Administrative Court refuses to apply.
- AMIF money - about PLN 247 million in agreements and applications, and not one of 138 indicators measures processing time.
- How the person asking becomes the accused - refusals justified by an assessment of the requester. Pomeranian Voivode, 30.09.2026: „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." (*In the Voivode's assessment, the [requester's] actions aim to take as many of the authority's staff as possible away from their statutory tasks, so as to deepen the problems of legalising foreigners' residence in Poland even further.*)

Other materials

- Ranking of the offices' replies - a score per letter we sent; a sample of 9-19 letters per office, not an assessment of the office's work.
- Cases and quotes - 148 cases letter by letter and 53 verbatim quotes.

- How this data has 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.
- The Mazovian Voivode's reply to our petition (20.09.2026), set against the documents.
- Document archive - 1,254 files, including all correspondence with the courts.

How to verify

Private persons' data have been removed from the files; officials' names and positions remain. The authorities' electronic signatures were removed together with the data, and for every document we give the SHA-256 hash of the signed original. Signed originals are available to journalists and courts for verification on request. Every figure in the reports has a reference to its source document.

Media contact

info@glos-migranta.eu - questions, requests for originals to verify, interviews.