

ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION



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The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Tirana implements Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) and Reintegration (AVRR) programmes for Albanian nationals returning from the West European countries mainly such as the UK, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Italy, Hungary, Finland and Switzerland. IOM Tirana provides reception and reintegration assistance for the returnees in compliance with the above programmes' procedural requirements.

The process goes through the following stages:

Pre-Departure

The migrant's voluntariness to return is assessed by the IOM mission in the country of destination. The migrant is also requested to inform about his/ her expected living conditions and to identify his/her needs and perspectives in Albania. The Reintegration Plan is drafted and shared accordingly with the IOM Mission in Tirana. In specific cases, such as Unaccompanied Minors (UMCs), a preliminary family assessment is carried out by IOM Tirana to find out the reasons and motifs behind the migration story at such an early age.

STATISTICS OF AVR/R FOR 2017:

UK : 156 (Post Arrival Reintegration Assistance)
Belgium: 93 (60 of which AVRR)
Italy : 11 (AVRR)
Switzerland: 14 (4 of which AVRR)
Norway : 11 (AVRR)
Finland: 90 (AVR)

Arrival/Reception

IOM Tirana arranges for airport reception and in-country transportation of the returnee, upon request from the sending mission and the needs of the returnee.

Post arrival

The IOM Mission in Albania and the beneficiary review the preliminary plan of reintegration according to the needs and skills of each individual and the quality and availability of the services required. Depending on the case, the support for reintegration includes: accommodation or house improvement, education, vocational training, start-up business activity, employment with salary top-up, medical support and child assistance. The assistance is provided in-kind i.e. IOM Tirana directly pays the suppliers and then transfers the goods or services to the returnee.

Cash grants are very rarely applied and only in a very limited number of programs.

The entire reintegration process is regularly monitored by IOM Tirana, up to 12 months from the date of the arrival.