Parliament adopts government's new declaration on integration for newly-arrived refugees and their family members

The Parliament (Storting) adopted the government's new declaration on integration for newly arrived refugees and their family members. The declaration clarifies the rights, duties and expectations that apply in Norwegian society. The declaration emphasises, among other things, that work and Norwegian language training are key to integration, and that everyone has the right to live free lives free from violence, coercion and negative social control.

No separate sanctions are introduced in connection with the declaration, but violations of Norwegian law may have consequences under other regulations:

- The introduction benefit can be reduced or stopped completely if newly arrived refugees do not fulfil the obligation to participate in the introduction programme.
- When applying for a permanent residence permit, there are requirements for oral Norwegian, passed tests in social studies and self-support.
- For citizenship, there are even higher requirements for Norwegian language skills and knowledge of society.
- Violations of Norwegian law can also be punished according to ordinary criminal law regulations.

The aim is for the declaration to enter into force from 1 January 2027.

Source(s)

- Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion | Arbeids- og inkluderingsdepartementet (30 May, 2026), Nye krav til flyktninger vedtatt: – Skal være tydelige fra start [New requirements for refugees adopted: "Must be clear from the start"], https://www.regjeringen.no/no/aktuelt/nye-krav-til-flyktninger-vedtatt-skal-vare-tydelige-fra-start/id3163308/

Related development(s)

Government sends new bill on integration declaration to Parliament

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