

Name: Tran Minh Van  
Mykolas Romeris University  
Social Technologies  
✉: [van.tm@live.com](mailto:van.tm@live.com)  
☎: +370 6383 7323

## CENTRAL PLUS

### **1/ Introduction:**

Central Plus is a non-government organization established with an aim of providing necessary services and consultation related to immigration issues to immigrants from Africa, Middle East, etc. Central Plus offers different services which are suitable for the different needs of the clients such as translation, legal consultation, language courses to those who face communicating problems, and consultation service for those who want to establish their own business in Lithuania and so on. Central Plus also helps the foreign employees improve their resume in order to find a better job opportunity. Moreover, Central Plus has visitor who is the manager of the immigration office coming to offer the legal and immigration consultation to the immigrants individually.

### **2/ Mission:**

The main mission of Central Plus is to provide needed services to the immigrants in order to help them improve their living standard oversea and integrate better in the society. Central Plus is mainly sponsored by EU. Every 2 months, a report shall be made in order to inform the monthly activities as well as the achievements; some certain information should also be included in the report such as the number of visitors, immigrants, clients and their signatures or activities from Non-EU countries, list of people who are granted resident permit, etc.

In order to grant fund from EU, an annual report should be made with the aim of announcing their activities during that year, expense spent on the programs and activities, achievements of this year, unachieved goals (and reasons why these goals could not be achieved) and also goals for next year.

### **3/ Review from clients:**

Thanks to the efforts made by Central Plus, many clients could successfully achieve their dreams and purposes. They received plenty of support from this organization such as consultation for business establishment, residential relocation, etc, and they could also meet new people and make new friends thanks to the various

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activities held by Central Plus to bring people together. Moreover, the clients are able to join different language courses in order to help them overcome the language difficulty.

#### **4/ Difficulties met:**

Nevertheless, Central Plus still faces some certain problems during the mission of solving social problems and improving social life. One of the significant problems is the demand of international job-seekers due to the shortage of international organizations and enterprises in Lithuania; therefore, it is difficult for Central Plus to actually find a suitable job for the immigrants.

Furthermore, Central Plus also met the problem when dealing with the landlords to find habitation for the immigrants because sometimes the landlords discriminate them or due to their “nationalism”. The immigrants received lack of support from the government organizations, especially in Vilnius and Central Plus heard a lot of complaints about this issue.

#### **5/ Role of social workers:**

- Organizing language courses
- Giving consultation
- Orienting the clients to the suitable consultation or support
- Organizing cross-cultural activities for the immigrants as well as the citizens to join
- Making research in order to report to EU
- Providing translation services

#### **6/ Extra activities:**

Central Plus organize various multicultural activities for the clients to join such as movie nights, summer camp, language exchange, canoeing, basketball tour, orientation game. Moreover, another significant activity is Friday radio that broadcasts weekly events and information.

#### **7/ Personal opinion:**

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This is a new experience to me as there is no organization like this in my country. Most of the organizations that support the foreigners are profit ones. In my opinion, I really enjoy working with this target group because I would like to learn about different cultures, however, I think I am not capable of doing this as a profession because I find myself lack of some certain skills for this. Another reason is that I prefer working with children. But I think, being a social worker, one should be flexible and should not have any interest in any target group because they all need his/her support. I would also like to be trained to serve any kind of target group.