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EMN European Migration Network

2026.57 AHQ on citizenship welcome ceremonies

European Migration Network Ad-hoc query

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AD-HOC QUERY ON 2026.57 AHQ ON CITIZENSHIP WELCOME CEREMONIES

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Responses from: EMN NCP Austria, EMN NCP Belgium, EMN NCP Bulgaria, EMN NCP Croatia, EMN NCP Cyprus, EMN NCP Czech Republic, EMN NCP Estonia, EMN NCP Finland, EMN NCP France, EMN NCP Germany, EMN NCP Greece, EMN NCP Hungary, EMN NCP Ireland, EMN NCP Italy, EMN NCP Latvia, EMN NCP Lithuania, EMN NCP Luxembourg, EMN NCP Netherlands, EMN NCP Poland, EMN NCP Portugal, EMN NCP Serbia, EMN NCP Slovakia, EMN NCP Slovenia, EMN NCP Spain, EMN NCP Sweden, EMN NCP Ukraine, EMN NCP United Kingdom **(27 in total)**

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Sub-Directorate for Access to French Nationality (SDANF) of the Directorate for Integration and Access to Nationality (DIAN), within the Directorate General for Foreign Nationals in France (DGEF) of the Ministry of the Interior, is currently considering ways to reinvigorate the welcome citizenship ceremony. This ceremony is organised for those who have recently acquired French citizenship. The Minister Delegate for Citizenship would like to receive proposals by the end of September. In this context, the SDANF would like to obtain more information on the formalities and practices in place in the EMN Member and Observer Countries.

WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

We would very much appreciate your responses by **30 September 2026**.

1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary.

2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)?

3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents)

4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned?

5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country?

6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies?

RESPONSES

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	EMN NCP Austria	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. In Austria, citizenship is conferred in a solemn setting befitting the occasion, as reflected by the joint singing of the national anthem and the visible display of the flags of the Republic of Austria, the respective province, and the European Union. In addition, foreign nationals who have full legal capacity or who have reached the age of 18 but lack full legal capacity solely due to their age must take an oath before citizenship is granted (Art. 21 of the Citizenship Act 1985). There is no further formal ceremony for new citizens in Austria. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? Yes, the requirements mentioned in Question 1 and the taking of the oath are prerequisites for the granting of citizenship. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents)

			See Question 1. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/a. 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? In Austria, citizenship is conferred in a ceremonial setting before the competent authority. In Austria, this is the respective provincial government (Art. 39 of the Citizenship Act 1985). 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? See Question 5.
	EMN NCP Belgium	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. In Belgium, there is no ritualised and uniform welcome ceremony organised at national level. However, some municipalities organise ceremonies to celebrate the acquisition of Belgian nationality at their own initiative. The City of Brussels, for instance, hosts a ceremony twice a year at the Brussels City Hall, inviting all new Belgians residing on the territory of the Brussels

			municipality. It is up to individual municipal administrations to decide whether or not to host such citizenship welcome ceremonies, as well as their modalities. Participation in these ceremonies is voluntary. In 2019, the possibility to introduce a welcome ceremony similar to what exists in France was discussed in Parliament following a law proposal (https://www.dekamer.be/FLWB/PDF/55/0404/55K0404001.pdf), but was ultimately dismissed. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? No. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) The content of the ceremonies depends on the hosting municipality (see answer to Q1). As an example, the welcome ceremonies organised by the City of Brussels are presented as a significant milestone in the journey of those newly granted citizenship. Citizens are invited to the City Hall, a grand and symbolic venue, at 18:30 with a guest of their choice. The programme includes the playing of the national anthem and speeches by the Mayor and the Alderman/Alderwoman for Civil Status (centred around diversity and multiculturalism), a group photo of the new citizens with members of the Brussels College of Mayor and Aldermen,

			a tour of the Town Hall, and finally a reception. Citizens are presented with a symbolic certificate (which holds no legal standing) and a tote bag containing City-branded gifts. Source: City of Brussels 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? There are no specific arrangements to encourage attendance as the event is purely festive. 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? Municipal (at their own initiative). 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? Municipalities (local administrations) can organise these ceremonies at their own initiative (see Q1).
	EMN NCP Bulgaria	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. No. According to Article 37, paragraph 1 of the Law on Bulgarian Citizenship (LBC), the Ministry of

			Justice issues a certificate concerning changes in the citizenship status of individuals. The certificate is collected in person against signature at the Ministry of Justice or at a diplomatic or consular mission of the Republic of Bulgaria abroad. At present, the applicable legislation does not provide for the organisation of an official ceremonial event for the presentation of the certificate, respectively for welcoming persons who have acquired Bulgarian citizenship by naturalization, and accordingly, no such ceremony is organised. In addition to the above, it should be noted that, by Order of the Minister of Justice, an inter-institutional working group has been established with the task of carrying out an analysis of the Law on Bulgarian Citizenship and the secondary legislation in the field of Bulgarian citizenship and making proposals for amendments and supplements thereto. Within the framework of this working group, the possibility of introducing an official ceremony for the presentation of the certificates under Article 37, paragraph 1 of the LBC will also be discussed. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? N/A 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) N/A

			4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? N/A 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? N/A
	**EMN NCP Croatia**	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. According to Article 24b, Paragraph 3 of the Croatian Citizenship Act, the Minister of the Interior issued the Ordinance on the Manner and Procedure of Taking the Solemn Oath ("Official Gazette", No. 108/21), prescribing the manner and procedure for taking the solemn oath by a person acquiring Croatian citizenship by naturalization. The solemn oath ceremony is organized at least once a year (as a rule, on the occasion of public holidays and days of remembrance of the Republic of Croatia). Organizing the solemn oath ceremony is mandatory, whereas attendance is not. Only an adult person takes the solemn oath.

			2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? Failure to attend the oath-taking ceremony has no legal consequences regarding the acquisition of Croatian citizenship. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) The solemn oath is administered in a suitable venue featuring the displayed symbols of the Republic of Croatia (the coat of arms and the flag). The ceremony begins with the playing of the national anthem of the Republic of Croatia. The ceremony officiant begins by explaining to the person taking the oath the significance of acquiring Croatian citizenship, as well as the rights and duties of a Croatian citizen. Following the officiant, the person taking the oath recites the text of the oath in person. The text of the oath is signed by the person taking the oath and countersigned by the ceremony officiant. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? The person required to take the oath will be summoned to do so via mail, email, or the website of the Ministry of the Interior or the competent diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Croatia abroad. Exceptionally, the solemn oath may be taken upon receipt of the decision granting Croatian citizenship at the competent authority in the Republic of Croatia

			or abroad if there are justifiable reasons for doing so (e.g., advanced age, health condition, significant distance between the place of residence and the location where the oath is administered, etc.). 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? A person to whom the decision on admission to Croatian citizenship is served within the Republic of Croatia shall take the solemn oath at a police administration or police station, or at another appropriate venue. The oath-taking ceremony shall be conducted by a state official or a Ministry employee authorised for this purpose by the Minister of the Interior. A person to whom the decision on admission to Croatian citizenship is served abroad shall take the solemn oath at a diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Croatia, or at another venue used for official purposes. The oath-taking ceremony shall be conducted in the Croatian language by the head of the diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Croatia, or by their deputy. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? For persons who are served the decision on admission to Croatian citizenship within the Republic of Croatia, the oath-taking ceremony is organized by the Ministry of the Interior or the competent police administrations. For persons who are served the decision on admission to Croatian citizenship abroad, the oath-taking ceremony is organized by the diplomatic missions and consular posts of the

			Republic of Croatia abroad.
	EMN NCP Cyprus	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. NO 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? N/A 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) N/A 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A

			5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? N/A 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? N/A
	EMN NCP Czech Republic	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. YES. Where an application for the granting of Czech citizenship is approved, the applicant is issued a "Certificate of Granting Czech Citizenship". Czech citizenship is acquired on the date on which the citizenship oath is taken. The citizenship oath is taken publicly and in a ceremonial manner. For reasons worthy of special consideration, the requirement to take this oath may be omitted. In such cases, , Czech citizenship is acquired on the date on which the decision to exempt the applicant from taking the citizenship oath becomes legally effective. Upon taking the citizenship oath, the applicant is presented with the "Certificate of Granting Czech Citizenship". Children under 15 years of age do not take the citizenship oath. A child acquires Czech citizenship by granting on the date on which the child's legal representative receives the "Certificate of Granting Czech Citizenship" issued for the child.

			2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? YES. The applicant may take the citizenship oath no later than 12 months from the date on which the invitation to take the citizenship oath was delivered to them. If the applicant fails to take the citizenship oath within this period, the Ministry shall by resolution, discontinue the proceedings and revoke the decision granting Czech citizenship. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) During the ceremony, the applicant takes publicly a citizenship oath and upon the oath receives "Certificate of Granting Czech Citizenship". 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? The citizenship welcome ceremony is organized by regional authorities.

			The oath must be taken in front of the Director of the Regional Authority or, in the capital city of Prague, in front of the Secretary of the Municipal District Authority of Prague 1 to Prague 22 (or in front of a person authorised by them). For reasons worthy of special consideration, the citizenship oath may also be taken abroad in front of the head of a diplomatic mission or consular office of the Czech Republic, except for a consular office headed by an honorary consular officer (or in front of a person authorised by them). 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? Please see Q 5.
	EMN NCP Estonia	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. Yes, according to Citizenship Act art 20, the governmental authority authorised by the Government of the Republic issues a citizenship certificate to the applicant. It was our usual practice, that the citizenship certificate was issued to a recipient of citizenship at a formal ceremony. A change is planned from 2027 onwards, whereby citizenship certificates will henceforth be issued electronically. Consequently, the provision in the Citizenship Act governing the issue of certificates is no longer required and will be repealed from the start of next year. Under the proposed change, new Estonian citizens will in future be welcomed in the ceremony only with a certificate of appreciation, as citizenship certificates will no longer be issued from 2027.

			2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? No, participation is on voluntary basis. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) The ceremony is an event that recognises the value of every new Estonian citizen. At the ceremony, a senior government official presents the new citizen with a certificate of citizenship, a certificate of appreciation and the Estonian flag. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? We don’t have any specific encouraging arrangements. 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? National level.

			6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? Previously, these events were organised by the Police and Border Guard Board's Communications Department; from this autumn, they will be organised by Integration Foundation (INSA), in collaboration with the Police and Border Guard Board's and the Ministry of Culture.
	EMN NCP Finland	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. NO. Finland does not hold official citizenship ceremonies for people who have been granted Finnish citizenship. However, municipalities may organize such events for their residents if they wish. So far, only a few cities in the Helsinki metropolitan area have voluntarily arranged celebratory ceremonies for new citizens. These ceremonies have been entirely voluntary. In 2017, during the centenary celebrations of Finland's independence, the Ministry of the Interior, the Association of Finnish Cities and Municipalities, and the Finnish Immigration Service jointly issued a communication encouraging municipalities to involve new citizens in celebrating 100 years of independent Finland. In the same year, the Finnish Immigration Service sent a personal congratulatory letter to everyone who had been granted Finnish citizenship, congratulating them on obtaining citizenship. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document

			certifying citizenship)? N/A 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) N/A 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? N/A 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? N/A

	EMN NCP France	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. Act No. 2006-911 of 24 July 2006 on immigration and integration introduced Articles 21-28 and 21-29 into the Civil Code, which provide for the organisation of a welcome citizenship ceremony for those who have recently acquired French citizenship. Whilst the organisation of these ceremonies is compulsory, attendance at them is not. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? Failure to attend the ceremony has no legal implications for the actual acquisition of nationality. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) The ceremony is normally organised within six months of the applicant acquiring French nationality. However, the starting point varies depending on the procedure by which the applicant obtained French nationality: • From the date the declaration is registered, if the applicant acquired French nationality by declaration (this applies to marriages, ascendants of French nationals, and brothers or sisters of French nationals);

			• From the publication of the decree in the Official Journal, if the applicant has acquired French nationality by naturalisation; • From the issue of the first certificate of French nationality, if the applicant has acquired French nationality upon reaching the age of majority. This solemn yet convivial occasion marks the new citizens' entry into the national community and emphasises that the acquisition of nationality is more than a mere administrative formality. The ceremony brings together new French citizens, the prefectural authorities, mayors and members of parliament – who may be invited – to share a convivial yet solemn occasion. A member of the prefectural authorities presides over the ceremony and delivers a speech outlining, in particular, the rights and duties of new French citizens. A film is also shown, outlining the foundations and principles of the French Republic. After singing the national anthem, each person receives a welcome pack for new French citizens from the prefectural authority, the attending Member of Parliament or the mayor. This pack contains: • A welcome letter from the President of the Republic; • An information leaflet on the organisation of public authorities and the rights and duties of citizens, as well as the Charter of Rights and Duties of French Citizens; • The 1789 Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen; • Excerpts from the Constitution of the Fifth Republic; • The lyrics of the national anthem. Applicants are not required to take an oath during the ceremony. Commitment to the values of the Republic is assessed during the integration interview, which takes place whilst the application for naturalisation is being processed. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned?

			Article L.3142-75 of the Labour Code entitles employees to at least half a day's leave to attend the ceremony. The duration of this leave may not be deducted from annual paid leave. 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? French welcome citizenship ceremony are organised at departmental level. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? The departmental prefect (in Paris, the police prefect; abroad, the consular authority) is responsible for organising the welcoming ceremony for people who have recently acquired French nationality and who reside in the department. The mayor may also be authorised to organise it in his or her capacity as a registrar. Held at the prefecture or sub-prefecture, the ceremony is presided over by the prefect or a sub-prefect, in the presence of mayors and members of parliament.
	EMN NCP Germany	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. YES. Section 16 sentence 3 of the German Nationality Act (Staatsangehörigkeitsgesetz – StAG) provides that the naturalisation certificate shall, as a rule, be handed over during a public naturalisation ceremony (öffentliche Einbürgerungsfeier).

			Federal nationality law does not establish a separate obligation for the person concerned to participate in a public naturalisation ceremony as such. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? NO. The ceremony itself is not a legal condition for the effective acquisition of German citizenship. Pursuant to Section 16 sentence 1 StAG, naturalisation takes effect upon handover of the naturalisation certificate issued by the competent nationality authority. Before the certificate is handed over, the solemn declaration prescribed by Section 16 sentence 2 StAG must be made. Consequently, if the certificate is to be handed over during a naturalisation ceremony and the person concerned does not attend that appointment, naturalisation does not take effect at that point because the certificate has not been handed over. The decisive legal requirement is the handover of the certificate, not attendance at the ceremony as such 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) There is no uniform programme prescribed by federal law. Where the naturalisation certificate is handed over during the ceremony, the person concerned must first make the solemn

			declaration prescribed by Section 16 sentence 2 StAG, declaring that they will respect the Basic Law and the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany and refrain from doing anything that could harm it. The naturalisation certificate is then officially handed over. Additional elements vary according to local practice. According to a non-representative written survey conducted in 2025 by the scientific staff of the Expert Council on Integration and Migration (SVR), in which 50 municipalities from twelve Länder participated, ceremonies generally include speeches and accompanying programmes of varying scope. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? There are no uniform federal measures specifically designed to encourage or ensure attendance at public naturalisation ceremonies. The arrangements are determined at Land and local level. According to the non-representative 2025 survey by the scientific staff of the SVR, different approaches are used in practice. Some municipalities organise separate voluntary ceremonies and invite persons who have already received their naturalisation certificates. Other municipalities combine the ceremony with the handover of the naturalisation certificate. In the latter case, attendance at the respective appointment is necessary for the certificate to be handed over and, consequently, for naturalisation to take effect. 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? Naturalisation ceremonies are organised on a decentralised basis at subnational level. The

			Länder determine which authorities are competent for nationality matters. Depending on the administrative structure of the respective Land, competence may lie at municipal, district, regional or Land level. There is no uniform nationwide territorial level at which naturalisation ceremonies are organised 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? The responsible stakeholders are the competent public authorities under the administrative arrangements of the respective Land. Depending on the Land, these may include municipal, city, district or Land administrative authorities. There is no single federal authority responsible for organising naturalisation ceremonies throughout Germany.
	EMN NCP Greece	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. Pursuant to the Greek Nationality Code (Article 9 of Law 3284/2004, as in force), the acquisition of Greek citizenship is completed upon the foreign national's swearing-in ceremony. Participation in the oath taking ceremony is mandatory and constitutes the essential legal milestone for the completion of the naturalisation procedure. As part of the initiatives undertaken by the Citizenship Secretariat General, during 2025 the ceremonies underwent a substantial upgrade, evolving from routine, administrative procedures into

			modern, formal, and high prestige welcoming ceremonies. Their conduct was relocated to emblematic venues of institutional symbolism, with the aim of reinforcing their public character and providing practical recognition of this paramount step of integration into the Hellenic Republic. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? By law, the oath-taking ceremony constitutes the critical legal precondition for the acquisition of Greek citizenship, which is verified by drafting a relevant record. The oath must be taken strictly within a preclusive deadline of one year from the publication of the naturalisation decision in the Government Gazette. If the oath is not taken within the annual deadline, the naturalisation decision is mandatorily revoked. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) The content of the new, upgraded ceremonies includes: • Reception and identification of ceremony participants • Brief addresses by official representatives of the Citizenship Secretariat General, official guests and representatives of regional and municipal authorities • The screening of a short informational video regarding the procedures following the swearing-in ceremonies • The official swearing-in of the new citizens, where the statutory oath is recited as follows: "I

			swear to remain faithful to the Country, obedient to the Constitution and the laws of the State, and to conscientiously fulfill my duties as a Greek citizen." • The formal presentation of the Certificate of Naturalisation (printed by the National Printing House) to each new citizen individually. • The rendition of the National Anthem. • The provision of commemorative material, which includes a copy of the Constitution, an informative brochure outlining the subsequent stages of the procedure, and a Greek flag lapel pin. It should be noted that professional photographic coverage of the ceremony is provided, with the photographic material being made freely available to the new Greek citizens. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? Given that participation in the oath-taking ceremony is legally mandatory for the completion of naturalisation, the Citizenship Secretariat General does not focus on measures of mere encouragement, but rather on ensuring accessibility, prestige, and the smooth execution of the procedure. In this context, a special registration form is operated to record the attendance of arriving citizens. In the event that an inability to attend on a specific date is ascertained, the procedure is rescheduled, ensuring the citizen's participation in a subsequent ceremony. Concurrently, special arrangements are provided for individuals with physical disabilities, enabling the swearing-in ceremony to take place at their residence or via video conference. For expatriate residents abroad, a corresponding oath-taking procedure is provisioned, conducted under the care of the competent Greek consular authority.

			5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? At regional level, as the regional Citizenship Directorates serve as the implementing bodies of the ceremonies. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? The responsible bodies for the organization and supervision are the Citizenship Secretariat General and the Citizenship Central Directorate, which designed and coordinated the institutional upgrade, alongside the regional Directorates for Citizenship acting as implementing bodies. Finally, please note that audiovisual material regarding the oath-taking ceremonies is posted on the social media pages of the General Secretariat for Citizenship.
	EMN NCP Hungary	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. No. Hungary does not organise a separate citizenship welcome ceremony. However, persons acquiring Hungarian citizenship by naturalisation or re-naturalisation are required to take a citizenship oath or affirmation, as provided for in Section 7 of Act LV of 1993 on Hungarian Citizenship. At the end of the naturalisation procedure, the person concerned solemnly makes a citizenship oath or pledge of allegiance before the competent mayor or the head of the Hungarian representation abroad. Participation is mandatory, as the resolution on naturalisation (certificate on naturalisation) takes effect with the oath or pledge of allegiance.

			Thus, the applicant acquires Hungarian citizenship on the day of the ceremony. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? N/A – Hungary does not organise a separate citizenship welcome ceremony. However, taking the citizenship oath or affirmation is a legal requirement for acquiring Hungarian citizenship by naturalisation or re-naturalisation. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) N/A 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country?

			N/A 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? N/A
	EMN NCP Ireland	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. Yes. Attendance at a Citizenship Ceremony remains the primary avenue for the granting of Irish citizenship. For adult applicants, their attendances are mandatory and are the final step to complete the naturalisation process (www.irishimmigration.ie/how-to-become-a-citizen/citizenship-ceremonies/). 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? For an adult applicant, the attendance at the citizenship ceremony is mandatory. If applicants cannot attend the ceremony for genuine reasons, they should click the option in the digital invitation that they are unable to attend. They will be invited to attend a future ceremony. If they fail to attend a number of ceremonies, the Minister for Justice may withdraw his intention to grant the application for naturalisation (www.irishimmigration.ie/how-to-become-a-

			citizen/citizenship-ceremonies/). 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) At the citizenship ceremony, applicants make their Declaration of Fidelity to the Irish Nation and Loyalty to the State. The declaration states that applicants will respect the rights, freedoms and laws of Ireland. They do not become an Irish citizen until they have made their declaration. Their certificate of naturalisation will be issued by post in the weeks following the ceremony. The citizenship ceremony itself is presided over by a Judge appointed by the Minister for Justice and is usually attended by a government minister. The Presiding Officer at the ceremonies conferred Irish citizenship upon the applicants and administered the Declaration of Fidelity to the Irish Nation and Loyalty to the State. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? The citizenship ceremonies are organised at the national level. There were 24 citizenship

			ceremonies held in 2024 and 25 ceremonies held in 2025. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? Citizenship division in the Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) under Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration is responsible for organising citizenship ceremonies. You can view previous ceremonies on this link, extension://hdppkjifljbdpckfajcmlblbchhledln/bcr.html?bcr=https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ix5ixiHG3Ns&t=26s
	EMN NCP Italy	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. The Italian legislation in force does not provide for a specific citizenship ceremony. There is, however, a ceremony, in a non-technical sense, presided over by the Mayor or by an official delegated by the Mayor. During this ceremony, the applicant for citizenship must take an oath of allegiance to the Constitution and the laws of the Italian State, pursuant to Article 10 of Law No. 91/1992, in order to acquire Italian citizenship. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? The oath must be taken within six months of the date of notification of the decree granting

			Italian citizenship. If the person concerned does not take the oath, the decree becomes null and void and produces no legal effect. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) See answer 1. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? The ceremony for taking the oath for the granting of Italian citizenship falls within the competence of the Civil Registrars, in Italy and abroad, depending on the applicant's place of residence. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? See answer 5.

	EMN NCP Latvia	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. YES. Participation is mandatory. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? Yes. The naturalisation conditions are included in Section 12 of the Citizenship Law. Namely, according to Section 12 (1) of the Citizenship Law, only the following person may be admitted to Latvian citizenship through naturalisation procedures - who has given a pledge of loyalty to the Republic of Latvia. Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs shall take a decision to refuse to include information regarding the person in a draft Cabinet order regarding admittance to the Latvian citizenship through naturalisation procedure if six months have passed since informing the person regarding the necessity to pledge loyalty to the Republic of Latvia and the person has not done it without justifiable reasons. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents)

			The ceremony shall take place in a room where the national symbols are placed - the national flag of Latvia and supplemented lesser State coat of arms of Latvia. The national anthem of Latvia shall be played in the beginning of the ceremony. While standing, the person shall read the text of the pledge in the Latvian language. Namely, upon becoming a citizen of Latvia, to pledge be loyal to the Republic of Latvia; to promise devoted to Latvia and fulfil the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Latvia in good faith; to undertake to defend the independence of the State of Latvia, to strengthen the Latvian language as the only official language, to live and work in good faith, in order to increase the prosperity of the State and people of Latvia; to certify that actions will never be directed against Latvia as an independent and democratic State. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? The pledge shall be accepted by the official of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? Officials of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs.

	EMN NCP Lithuania	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. YES. Participation is mandatory. Lithuania does not organise a separate voluntary welcome ceremony for persons who have already acquired citizenship. Instead, it organises a solemn citizenship oath ceremony, which forms part of the legal procedure for acquiring Lithuanian citizenship. The prospective citizen must actively initiate the oath procedure and attend the ceremony; where the oath is required, citizenship is acquired only after the oath has been taken. The oath must be taken within the applicable statutory time limit. This requirement applies, among others, to persons granted citizenship through naturalisation, under the simplified procedure or by exception, as well as to persons whose citizenship is returned. It does not apply to persons under 18 years of age or to persons declared legally incapable in the relevant area. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? YES. Taking the oath is a legal condition for effectively acquiring Lithuanian citizenship in cases where the oath requirement applies. The person acquires Lithuanian citizenship, together with the rights and obligations of a citizen, only after taking the oath. The oath must be taken within the statutory period: within six months from the entry into force of the Presidential Decree granting citizenship for a stateless person, a national of a country whose citizenship is automatically lost upon acquisition of Lithuanian citizenship, or a

			person granted citizenship by exception; or within two years from the entry into force of the Presidential Decree granting or returning citizenship where the person has declared in writing that they will renounce their existing foreign citizenship. Failure to attend a particular scheduled ceremony does not in itself prevent acquisition of citizenship, provided that the person takes the oath within the applicable statutory period. If the person does not take the oath within that period, they do not acquire Lithuanian citizenship. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) The ceremony consists primarily of the solemn oath of allegiance to the Republic of Lithuania. It takes place in a formal setting in the presence of the Lithuanian national flag and coat of arms. The person stands before the official receiving the oath, reads the prescribed oath while placing a hand on the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, and signs an individual oath sheet. The official then verifies the signed oath sheets and reads out the names of the persons who have taken the oath. The person receives a certified copy of their individual oath sheet. Relatives, other guests and media representatives may attend. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? Not applicable. Participation is mandatory for persons subject to the oath requirement. Persons who are legally exempt from taking the oath are not required to participate in the ceremony.

			5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? In Lithuania, the ceremonies are not organised at departmental or local level. Within Lithuania, the oath is taken centrally at the Ministry of the Interior. Persons abroad may take the oath at a Lithuanian diplomatic mission or consular post. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? In Lithuania, the responsibility is shared between the person concerned and the competent authorities. The person must initiate the procedure by submitting an application to be allowed to take the oath, normally through the Lithuanian Migration Information System (MIGRIS), and indicate where they wish to take the oath. Thus, the authorities do not simply invite persons who have already acquired citizenship to an optional ceremony; the onus is on the person concerned to apply and complete the oath procedure within the statutory period. If the person chooses to take the oath in Lithuania, the Migration Department organises the ceremony at the Ministry of the Interior. Once the application has been accepted, the Migration Department determines the date, time and place of the ceremony and informs the person through MIGRIS. The oath itself is received by the Minister of the Interior or an authorised Vice-Minister. If the person chooses to take the oath abroad, the relevant Lithuanian diplomatic mission or consular post organises the ceremony, and the oath is received by the head of that mission or consular post.

	EMN NCP Luxembourg	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. NO. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? N/A. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) N/A. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A. 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country?

			N/A. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? N/A.
	EMN NCP Netherlands	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. YES. The naturalisation ceremony is a mandatory ceremony and the last step in obtaining the Dutch citizenship. The ceremony is held at least once a year on 15 December during the national naturalisation day (Art. 5 par. 3 Regeling verkrijging en verlies Nederlanderschap) (1). The person who wants to obtain Dutch citizenship must attend the naturalization ceremony within a year after the approval of the request for naturalisation (2). ^ Rijksoverheid, Hoe verloopt de naturalisatieceremonie? https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/vraag-en-antwoord/nederlandse-nationaliteit/wat-is-een-naturalisatieceremonie-en-wat-is-de-nationale-naturalisatiedag, last accessed on 9 September 2026. ^ NederlandWereldwijd, Wat is de naturalisatieceremonie? https://www.nederlandwereldwijd.nl/nederlandse-nationaliteit/naturalisatieceremonie, last accessed on 9 September 2026.

			2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? YES At the ceremony, the person in question receives the decision to grant Dutch citizenship. Only when the person in question has received this document, the legal effects of the decision will take effect retroactively. The date of the signature of the decision is the date of naturalisation (1). With this document, the person in question can apply for a Dutch passport (2). According to Article 60b Besluit Verkrijging en Verlies Nederlanderschap, the mayor sends an invitation to attend the naturalization ceremony. In case of failure to attend the ceremony, he/she will receive a second invitation. If the person does not show up, a third invitation will be sent by certified mail. If someone does not show up the third time, the legal effects of the decision will not take effect. The person in question will have to make a new request for naturalisation (3). ^ Art. 60b par. 1 Besluit verkrijging en verlies Nederlanderschap. ^ IND, U wordt Nederlander. Wat mag en moet u doen? https://ind.nl/nl/formulieren/6075.pdf, last accessed on 9 September 2026. ^ NederlandWereldwijd, Wat is de naturalisatieceremonie? https://www.nederlandwereldwijd.nl/nederlandse-nationaliteit/naturalisatieceremonie, last accessed on 9 September 2026.

			3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) During the ceremony, in addition to receiving the decision to grant Dutch citizenship, everyone who wants to become a Dutch citizen must pronounce the "Declaration of Solidarity", in which they declare that they are aware that the laws of the Kingdom of the Netherlands also apply to them (1). The declaration is in Dutch. ^ Rijksoverheid, Verklaring van Verbondenheid, https://open.overheid.nl/overheid/openbaarmakingen/api/v0/attachment/ronl-37c72027dd8bb12ee11eec472fdda63f2f3a4d29, last accessed on 9 September 2026. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? Dutch naturalisation ceremonies are organised at the municipality level. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies?

			The naturalisation ceremony on the 15th of December is organised by the municipalities. Municipalities can also organise the ceremony on other days during the year. The frequency of the ceremonies depends on the municipality, varying from once every six weeks, to once or twice a month (1). ^ See for example: Utrecht, Ceremonie bij naturalisatie. https://www.utrecht.nl/wonen-en-leven/burgerzaken/ceremonie-bij-naturalisatie, last accessed on 9 September 2026.
	EMN NCP Poland	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. NO The provisions of the Act of 2 April 2009 on Polish Citizenship do not provide for the holding of ceremonies in connection with the acquisition of Polish citizenship. It should be noted that certain entities (e.g., consuls) sometimes ceremonially present documents confirming the acquisition of Polish citizenship; however, such actions are not required by law and have no bearing on the fact that the person concerned has acquired Polish citizenship. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? N/A

			3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) N/A 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? N/A 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? N/A
	EMN NCP Portugal	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. NO. Portugal does not organise an official citizenship welcome ceremony. The acquisition of

			Portuguese nationality is a purely administrative process that concludes with the issuance of the Portuguese birth certificate (assento de nascimento). Once the registration is complete, the new citizen is officially recognized and can directly apply for their identity card (Cartão de Cidadão) and passport, without any requirement for a public ceremony or oath. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? N/A 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) N/A 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country?

			N/A 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? N/A
	EMN NCP Serbia	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. NO 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? N/A 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) N/A

			4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? N/A 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? N/A
	**EMN NCP Slovakia**	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. No, but the citizenship of the Slovak Republic shall be acquired upon receiving the citizenship certificate. The applicant shall be handed over the certificate by the district office in the seat of the region, diplomatic mission or consular office of the Slovak Republic after taking the oath of a Slovak citizen of the Slovak Republic. Taking the oath is a condition for acquiring Slovak citizenship. The oath shall not be taken by children under 14 years of age and persons whose state of health does not permit it. The oath shall be taken in the hands of the head of the district office in the seat of the region, the

			ambassador, the consul or a person authorised by them. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? See response to question 1. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) See response to question 1. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? See response to question 1. 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? See response to question 1.

			6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? See response to question 1.
	EMN NCP Slovenia	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. Prior to acquiring citizenship, every person of legal age must take an oath to respect the constitutional democratic order of the Republic of Slovenia. Taking the oath is mandatory. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? Taking the oath to respect the constitutional democratic order of the Republic of Slovenia constitutes a legal requirement for the acquisition of citizenship. If a person fails to take the oath, a decision to refuse the application may be issued. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) The person only takes the oath during the ceremony.

			4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? / 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? Taking the oath takes place at administrative units and consular missions of the Republic of Slovenia. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? The taking of the oath is organized by the head of the administrative unit, the head of the consular office, or a person authorized by either of them.
	EMN NCP Spain	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. No. Spain does not organise a specific citizenship welcome ceremony. However, persons who acquire Spanish nationality are required to take a formal oath or pledge of allegiance to the King and obedience to the Constitution and the Spanish legal system before the Civil Registry or, in certain cases, before a notary. This act constitutes a legal requirement for the effective acquisition of Spanish nationality.

			2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? N/A. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) N/A. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A. 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? N/A. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies?

			N/A.
	EMN NCP Sweden	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. Yes. The participation is voluntary. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? No. The ceremony does not constitute a legal condition for acquiring citizenship. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) Since 2015, every individual municipality is legally required to organize a citizenship ceremony at least once per year for residents who have become Swedish citizens within the past 18 months. The municipality decides independently on the content of the ceremony and adapts it to what works best. There are, however, some guidelines to follow. A ceremony should convey that: Swedish citizenship is the most important legal relationship between the citizen and the stateCitizenship entails freedoms, rights, and obligationsCitizenship is a foundation for democracy and represents a sense of belonging to Sweden.

			4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? Along with the decision about Swedish citizenship, the Swedish Migration Agency includes information on the opportunity to participate in a citizenship ceremony in the individual's municipality of residence. All municipalities are required to organise citizenship ceremonies, ensuring that these events are held close to where the new citizen live. For a fee, the municipalities can retrieve data from the Swedish Population Register regarding individuals who recently acquired Swedish citizenship. This allows them to directly invite everyone in the municipality who has obtained citizenship since the last ceremony. The ceremonies are often arranged in connection with Sweden's National Day on 6 June, and are conducted in a pleasant and ceremonial setting. The events typically include coffee and light refreshments and a senior local politician usually presides over the ceremony. The government allocates SEK 5 million per year for citizenship ceremonies. Each municipality receives funding in proportion to its population. Municipalities do not need to apply for financial support for this purpose. Instead, the funds are allocated through the general government grant to municipalities as part of the national budget. The distribution of funds to municipalities is intended to cover various expenses, including: Labor costs for preparing and conducting citizenship ceremoniesCosts for obtaining name and address information of new citizens in the municipalitiesSending out invitations and reply cards. During 2026, the Swedish Migration Agency, in collaboration with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) were assigned to develop an information leaflet on citizenship ceremonies. The aim was to more effectively target individuals with information about the opportunity and increase participation in such ceremonies. The County Administrative Boards (Länsstyrelsen) are tasked with supporting municipalities by

			providing information on citizenship ceremonies and how they can be organized, for example by sharing examples of good practices. 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? Municipal level. All municipalities are legally required to organise ceremonies at least once per year to celebrate new Swedes and their citizenship. A citizenship ceremony is intended for individuals who have recently become citizens of Sweden. 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? The municipalities.
	EMN NCP Ukraine	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. No, ceremonies to welcome new citizens are not held; instead, the territorial unit of the State Migration Service (at the district department level) sends a written notification stating that the person has acquired Ukrainian citizenship. 2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document

			certifying citizenship)? 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? 6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies?
	EMN NCP United Kingdom	**Yes**	1. Does your country organise a citizenship welcome ceremony? YES / NO. If you answer YES, please specify whether participation in this ceremony is mandatory or voluntary. YES, participants must attend a citizenship ceremony if they are 18 or over and have successfully applied to be a British citizen. A ceremony must be attended within 3 months of receiving an invitation from the Home Office. Only those who become citizens under the Windrush scheme can choose if they wany to attend a citizenship ceremony.

			2. If you answer YES to Q1, does this ceremony constitute a legal condition for effectively acquiring citizenship? YES/NO. If you answer YES, what are the consequences of failing to attend the ceremony (e.g. refusal of access to citizenship; failure to issue the document certifying citizenship)? YES, citizenship ceremonies are a statutory requirement introduced through the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002. Only after ceremony attendance does British citizenship take effect. If an individual does not attend a ceremony within 3 months of invitation (and the Home Office has not approved an extension), the approval for citizenship lapses and will be withdrawn. The individual would then need to re-apply for citizenship, including re-paying the associated fees. 3. If you answer YES to Q1, what is the content of the citizenship welcome ceremonies organised by your country? (e.g. taking an oath/pledge of allegiance, official presentation of citizenship documents) A citizenship ceremony is an official event conducted by a superintendent registrar or other authorised officer on behalf of the Home Office. It combines legal formality with civic celebration, marking the point at which citizenship takes effect. While each local authority sets its own style, the sequence generally includes: Opening remarks and introduction by the registrar or mayorAdministration of the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to His Majesty King Charles IIIRecital of the Citizenship PledgePresentation of certificates of naturalisation or registrationClosing remarks, which may include the national anthem or a civic address of welcomeThe precise wording of the oath, affirmation and pledge is fixed in law under Schedule 3 to the British Nationality (General)

			Regulations 2003 and cannot be changed. Participants who opt for the oath may hold an appropriate holy book; those preferring a secular statement make the affirmation. After the formal declarations, new citizens are invited to sign the local authority citizenship register. The registrar then presents each participant with their certificate of naturalisation or registration. The issue of this certificate confirms that British citizenship has taken legal effect from that moment. There is no statutory dress code, but smart attire is recommended to reflect the occasion's importance. Photography is generally permitted during or after the presentation, subject to council policy. Many authorities allow guests to witness the ceremony as part of the civic welcome. 4. If participation is not mandatory, what arrangements are in place to encourage and ensure the attendance of those concerned? N/A – participation is a statutory requirement. 5. If you answer YES to Q.1, at what territorial level (e.g. national, regional, municipal) are citizenship welcome ceremonies organised in your country? Municipal (local authority) level. In the UK, citizenship ceremonies are organised and conducted by local authorities (councils) on behalf of the Secretary of State. Successful applicants are invited to attend a ceremony arranged by the local authority covering their area of residence. While the legal framework and requirements are set nationally by the Home Office, the practical organisation and delivery of ceremonies takes place at the local authority level.

			6. If you answer YES to Q.1, which stakeholders are responsible for organising these ceremonies? In the UK, local authorities organise and conduct the citizenship ceremonies, on behalf of the Secretary of State under national policy guidance. The Home Office approves citizenship applications, issues invitations and notifies local authorities of eligible applicants. Ceremonies are delivered by local authority registrars or other authorised officers, sometimes with participation from civic dignitaries such as mayors. Where approved overseas, ceremonies may be delivered by officials at British Embassies, High Commissions, Consulates or Governors' Offices acting on behalf of the Secretary of State.

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