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Plus 45 % in naturalisations from January to September 2022

Almost 30 % of the newly naturalised are descendants of Nazi victims

Vienna, 2022-11-14 – In the first three quarters of 2022, Austrian citizenship was granted to 11 155 persons, including 3 017 (27.0 %) persons living abroad, as Statistics Austria reports. There were 45.3 % more naturalisations than from January to September 2021 (7 676 naturalisations) and 46.6 % more than in the same period before the COVID 19 pandemic began in 2019 (7 610 naturalisations).

“The strong increase in naturalisations of 45.3 % compared to the first three quarters of the previous year is mainly due to the naturalisations of victims of Nazi regime and their descendants, who account for almost 30 % of the newly naturalised persons from January to September 2022,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Under the legal title §58c StbG, politically persecuted persons of the Nazi regime and their descendants have the possibility of naturalisation in Austria without having to give up their previous citizenship in return. From January to September 2022, 3 022 persons (of whom 2 992 live abroad) were granted Austrian citizenship under §58c, which corresponds to 27.1 % of all naturalisations in these three quarters. Persons who were naturalised under this title are most frequently nationals of the following three states: Israel (1 182 or 10.6 % of all naturalised in the first nine months of 2022), United States (718 or 6.4 %) and United Kingdom (640 or 5.7 %). Those naturalised for other reasons (8 133 persons in total from January to September 2022) were previously most often nationals of Syria (834 or 7.5 %), Türkiye (810 or 7.3 %) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (614 or 5.5 %). Half of the naturalisations in the first three quarters 2022 were of **women** (50.6 %), about a third were **minors** (31.4 %). Almost a quarter of the newly naturalised persons were **born in Austria** (2 683 or 24.1 %).

In eight **federal provinces**, more persons were naturalised from January to September 2022 than in the same period of the previous year. The relative increases were highest in Vorarlberg (+47.4 % to 426 naturalisations), followed by Carinthia (+46.0 % to 419), Vienna (+33.6 % to 3 290) and Styria (+31.0 % to 740). In Burgenland (-7.6 % to 121) there were fewer naturalisations than in the previous year. Even compared to the first three quarters of 2019, before the COVID 19 pandemic, there were more naturalisations in seven provinces, led by Carinthia (+86.2 % to 419 naturalisations). Only in Vienna (-2.2 % to 3 290) and in Upper Austria (-4.9 % to 993) were there fewer naturalisations compared to 2019.

Almost three quarters of all naturalisations in the first nine months of 2022 were based on a legal claim (8 061 persons or 72.3 %). Among them, 3 950 persons were naturalised after at least six years of residence in Austria and for reasons worthy of special consideration (e.g. proven German language skills and sustainable integration, birth in Austria, EEA citizenship or entitlement to asylum - §11a, par. 4, par. 6 and para. 7), 3 022 politically persecuted persons and their descendants (§58c, para. 1 to para. 6), 484 persons on the basis of marriage to an Austrian (§11a, para. 1 and para. 2) and 361 persons on the basis of residence in Austria for at least 15 years and sustainable integration (§12, para. 1, line 1). A further 697 persons were granted citizenship on a discretionary basis (6.2 %), including 675 persons after at least ten years of residence (§10, para. 1). A total of 2 397 persons or 21.5 % were naturalised under the title of extension of conferral, of whom 303 were spouses (§16) and 2 094 children (§17).

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#).

Naturalisations in the first three quarters of 2022

Place of residence	Q1-Q3 2022	Change Q1-Q3 2021 – Q1-Q3 2022 in %	Of which:			Legal ground ¹			Q3 2022	Change Q3 2021 – Q3 2022 in %
			born in Austria	under 18 years	women	discretion	entitlement	extension		
Austria incl. abroad	11 155	45,3	2 683	3 501	5 641	697	8 061	2 397	2 997	14,4
Burgenland	121	-7,6	28	30	68	14	85	22	9	-78,6
Carinthia	419	46,0	133	135	226	42	238	139	154	85,5
Lower Austria	1 137	15,7	363	379	597	97	720	320	308	12,0
Upper Austria	993	5,5	378	366	495	103	562	328	236	-21,9
Salzburg	380	5,8	156	126	193	48	205	127	102	-3,8
Styria	740	31,0	244	241	329	87	454	199	253	19,3
Tyrol	632	19,7	224	211	302	80	377	175	197	3,7
Vorarlberg	426	47,4	167	170	204	30	245	151	113	21,5
Vienna	3 290	33,6	958	994	1 786	191	2 163	936	1 025	16,7
Abroad	3 017	166,8	32	849	1 441	5	3 012	-	600	37,0

S: STATISTIK AUSTRIA, Statistics on Naturalisations. Preliminary results.

1) Paragraph of the StbG 1985 as amended 2022 in force from 01.05.2022; discretion: §10 – entitlement: §§ 11a, 12-14, 25, 57, 58c, 64a – extension: §§ 16, 17. All paragraphs are only applied if all other requirements for naturalisation are met.

Information on methodology, definitions: The statistics on naturalisations are based on the information from the legally binding decisions of the offices of the provincial governments of Austria on the granting of citizenship and are carried out on behalf of the Federal Ministry of the Interior. The statistics on naturalisations document all types of acquisition of citizenship under the Naturalisation Act 1985, as amended in 2022 (sections 10 to 17, 25, 57, 58c and 64a), which are effected by a declaration of intent by the acquirer and a subsequent official act, but not automatic types of acquisition such as birth or legitimation of an illegitimate child. The naturalisation statistics include both naturalisations of persons residing in Austria and of persons residing abroad. In the case of naturalisations pursuant to Section 58c (politically persecuted persons and their descendants), the statistical effective date of naturalisation is the date of issuance of the decision and not the date of receipt of the notification by the authorities. These naturalisations mainly concern persons residing abroad.

If you have any questions on this topic, please contact:

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