

***Disclaimer:** The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.*



Ad-Hoc Query on Returns to Egypt

Requested by NL EMN NCP on 06th October 2010

Compilation produced on 29th November 2010

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Spain, United Kingdom (16 Total)

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1. Background Information

The Netherlands experiences great difficulties in its cooperation with Egypt on return. The Directorate of Migration Policy would like to know if other Member States experience problems when requesting laissez passers for forced return.

In this regard we would be interested in the following issues:

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2. Responses¹

		Wider Dissemination? ²	The Netherlands experiences great difficulties in its cooperation with Egypt on return. 1) The Netherlands would like to know if other Member states experience problems when requesting laissez passers for forced return. 2) The Netherlands would also like to know if other Member states have used article 69 of the EU-Egypt Association Agreement to stimulate or facilitate cooperation on this issue. 3) What other agreements of measures have Member States taken bilaterally to stimulate cooperation on return?
	Austria	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	Belgium	Yes	1) Number of travel documents requested are not important, but until recently the Egyptian Embassy did not issue any travel document when no original identity documents were available. We did not receive any answers regarding ongoing identification procedures. As of June 2010, a new consul arrived and we now receive answers after they have sent the identification to Cairo. 2 & 3) Belgium has not yet started a proper dialogue with Egypt on return
	Cyprus	Yes	1. Generally Cyprus Authorities do not face any particular problems with the Egypt Embassy based in Cyprus regarding the issuing of travel documents as long as Cyprus Authorities prove the identification of the migrant with evidence such as copy of travel documents, identity card, expired travel documents etc. 2. No 3. N/A
	Estonia	Yes	We can't provide such information, because Estonia has no cooperation with Egypt on return during the year 2010.
	Finland	Yes	1. Finland has not had any difficulties in executing forced return to Egypt. Between 2007 and 2010 there have been 12 persons from Egypt subject to forced return and invariably they have all had reliable identity documents (passport). 2. No. 3. None.
	Germany	Yes	1) Egypt belongs to the countries which cause problems in the area of readmission. Following the submission of applications for passports



¹ If possible at time of making the request, the Requesting EMN NCP should add their response(s) to the query. Otherwise, this should be done at the time of making the compilation.

² A default "Yes" is given for your response to be circulated further (e.g. to other EMN NCPs and their national network members). A "No" should be added here if you do not wish your response to be disseminated beyond other EMN NCPs. In case of "No" and wider dissemination beyond other EMN NCPs, then for the Compilation for Wider Dissemination the response should be removed and the following statement should be added in the relevant response box: "This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further."

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			<p>/equivalent travel certificates (ETC), the information given by the German authorities is checked in Egypt. Cases without documents which could prove the nationality remain generally unanswered. The consular representation of Egypt in Frankfurt / Main is one of three competent authorities in Germany and issues an ETC without delay if there is proof of nationality available.</p> <p>2) No.</p> <p>3) Egypt was one target country of the project "Return 2006" (other European Partner participated). The aim of the project was to improve the cooperation concerning the acquisition of travel documents. However, the Egyptian authorities were not interested in a deepened cooperation.</p>
	Italy	Yes	<p>The collaboration with the Egyptian authorities is progressing regularly, as confirmed by the continuous implementation of return measures against citizens of Egypt (the last operation dates back a few days ago: http://www.interno.it/mininterno/export/sites/default/it/sezioni/sala_stampa/notizie/immigrazione/0051_2010_10_06_rimpatrio_egiziani_iiregolari.html_8783074.html).</p> <p>At the general level is of great help the bilateral agreement regulating and managing the migratory flows for employment. For more information on this, see the recent study on EMN "Satisfying demand through labor migration".</p>
	Latvia	Yes	<p>The State Border Guard's Riga board expelled neither Egyptian citizens to Egypt nor executed travel documents at Egyptian embassy. There was only one occasion when three Egyptian citizens, according to readmission treaty, had been returned to Lithuania. Three Egyptian citizens had been expelled according to the Cabinet Council's requirements "Foreigners` forced deportation requirements, travel document`s form and conditions to issue it" points 18-th,19-th, 20-th, Nr. 212 of 29 April 2003.</p>
	Lithuania	No	<p>This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.</p>
	Malta	Yes	<p>1) Malta has an Egyptian Embassy with which we have good collaboration. Documents for identified Egyptians are usually issued within a relatively short time-frame.</p> <p>2) This is not required as the level of cooperation is already well established.</p> <p>3) No bilateral agreements on return have been signed</p>
	Netherlands	Yes	<p>1) The number of laissez passers requested by the Netherlands ministry of Justice is high, but the number of LPs issued by the Egyptian embassy is next to nothing</p> <p>2) & 3): The Netherlands has so far not been able to start a proper dialogue with Egypt on return.</p>
	Poland	Yes	<p>1) Polish Border Guard has not requested laissez passers for forced return yet.</p> <p>2) The article 69 of the EU-Egypt Association Agreement has not been used, so far.</p> <p>3) There is no additional dialogue with Egypt on return.</p>
	Portugal	Yes	<p>PT does not have a relevant experience concerning return of Egyptian citizens.</p>
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>In the period from 2008 – 2010 5 Egyptian nationals have been apprehended and detained in the detention facilities for foreigners (2008 – 2, 2009-1, 2010 – 2). From these persons, 3 persons have been expelled and 2 persons returned to their home countries via the assisted return programme (run by IOM). Bearing in mind the low number of the Egyptian nationals it can be concluded that the Slovak Republic has a limited experience with their returns, however the cooperation with the Embassy of Egypt can be assessed as good (without</p>

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			complications).
	Spain	Yes	Spain does not have particular difficulties in the return of Egyptians. For our country, Egyptian nationality is not one of the most significant in quantitative terms regarding to repatriation.
	United Kingdom	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
