



Ad-Hoc Query on Long-Term Strategic Vision for Migration Management

Requested by SE EMN NCP on 4th of December 2008

Responses from BE, BG, CZ, DE, EE, FR, IT, LT, HU, MT, NL, AT, PT, RO, FI, SE and UK – (17 in Total)

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1. Background Information

The Swedish Migration Board is in the process of outlining a new long-term strategic vision. The proposed vision for long-term management of migration is “A Sweden that with openness captures the potential benefits of global migration.” The vision derives from the fact that with a global shortage of skilled labour, it will become more and more difficult for Swedish - *and* European - companies to recruit people in an increased global competition of competent labour/workforce. We need practices for migration that attract skilled workers to Sweden as well as a migration system that provides swift and just services. This, it may be argued, is well in line with the current development within the EU. The vision also takes into account the concept of circular migration and the link between migration and development in the countries of origin, with aim to make the most out of the potential benefits in both ends of the migration chain.

The Swedish Migration Board's Division for Communications is now producing an employee's magazine to communicate the vision internally, and would like to include an article where trends concerning visions for long-term management of migration in other countries are examined. To obtain an overview of the visions guiding our counterparts in Europe we would like to know more about Your long term direction/guidance. Do you possibly have any formally defined vision for your organisation and its planning for the future? In that case, what is your vision?

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2. Responses¹

		Wider Dissemination? ²	<i>Ad-Hoc Query 1</i> – Do you have a formally defined vision for your organisation and its planning for the future? What is your vision?]
	Belgium		Not applicable
	Bulgaria		<p>The current migration situation in BG has the characteristics typical of the EU MS acceded from Southern Europe, which had turned soon from countries of emigration and/ or transit into countries attracting immigrants. Workforce shortage in certain sectors can be observed on the BG labour market. The BG economy needs a well-balanced intake of workers from abroad.</p> <p>The BG immigration policy is applied in support of economic development. The national interest on this issue requires active efforts to attract foreign citizens of BG origin in the first place.</p> <p><u>The National Strategy of the Republic of Bulgaria on Migration and Integration (2008-2015)</u> settles the strategic goals and priorities of the BG migration policy.</p> <p><u>Strategic Goal I</u> - Attraction of persons with Bulgarian citizenship, living on the territory of other countries, as well as of persons of Bulgarian origin with foreign citizenship - for permanent return and settlement in the Republic of Bulgaria.</p> <p><u>Strategic Goal II</u> - Realization and Implementation of adequate policy on acceptance and integration of foreigners and application of efficient control of the migration processes.</p>
	Czech Republic		<p>We would like to inform you, that we do not have any formally defined long-term strategic vision, other than the principles of government policy agreed on by the government in 2003. These are five broad principles.</p> <p>In addition, there is a report on migration submitted to the Parliament each year that features also an outline of the development on the field.</p>
	Denmark		
	Germany	yes	<p>The Federal Government's policy on immigration and integration is oriented on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integrating immigrants living here lawfully and permanently as a key policy task, both for the federal, state and local governments and for civil society as a whole; and integration as above all the responsibility of immigrants themselves, on the principle of the state providing support, but expecting more in return;




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 clear "YES", your response may be circulated further (i.e. to national network members) or "NO" should be added here.





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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> managing and controlling immigration in a more differentiated way that takes Germany's economic and societal needs into account; fulfilling humanitarian obligations derived from the German constitution and a number of internationally binding conventions and agreements; ensuring the protection and security of Germany and the people who live here; actively advocating Germany's views within the European Union, the Council of Europe and the United Nations. <p>For more information, see www.zuwanderung.de (english site)</p>
	Estonia		Estonia does not have any long-term plan for migration management. The current government policy plan states that Estonia will continue to pursue conservative migration policy. For example, there is a fixed annual immigration quota. In practice the economic migration has become more selective, which means that highly-skilled labour is preferred. At the same time flexibility in the labour market is necessary. Therefore some procedures have been made more simple.
	Ireland		
	Greece		
	Spain		
	France	YES	<p>The situation of immigration in France is characterized by a predominance of family immigration in relation to economic migration. The new policy on migration conducted by the French government since 2006 aims to rebalance these components focusing development of immigration chosen and coordinated so that economic immigration reached at medium term a rate of 50%.</p> <p>By reorganizing professional immigration, France seeks to meet the recruitment needs of some economic sectors by facilities for foreign nationals in specific occupations. France shall preserve the interests of countries of origin of immigrants and contribute to their development while meeting its own needs and promoting its economic and cultural influence.</p>
	Italy		<p>It's unfounded to say that Italy has completed a strategic vision on migration management. However, several elements lead in that direction and, over time, will produce a comprehensive strategic vision.</p> <p>These elements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Italy has a demographic deficit much higher than other Member States and is aware that a quota of 150,000 new workers is the minimum required to sustain the labour market. - In some strategic and labor intensive sectors, the contribution of immigrants is absolutely necessary (family care, construction, agriculture, unskilled works in different sectors). - In this phase the need of low skilled workers is quantitatively prevalent, even if new recruitments are shifting a little bit toward the more specialized profiles: however, even among the Italians there is a surplus of highly skilled workers waiting to be recruited.










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			<p>- Currently, the vision on migration management and the resulting policy decisions are short-medium term addressed. This situation has been driven by the continuous alternation of political governance, with conflicting views on the subject.</p> <p>- However, the actual large number of residents (close to 4 million of persons), their distribution over all the country, the significant impact on many sectors, the high incidence of foreign nationals children on new births and in schools, the presence of more than half a million of foreign caregivers living at family places, the recent National Institute for Statistics demographic forecasts according to which before 2051 foreign population will account 12,4 million, suggest that this stage of maturation of a long-term vision will be soon completed.</p> <p>- The connection between labor market and skilled workers demand will depend, on its quantitative dimension, by the improvement of the Italian production system, by the availability of small and medium-sized enterprises to co-operate and, more generally, by greater internationalization of the country.</p> <p>- In this context, a more positive attitude on immigration phenomenon, which in some areas is rooted and not in others (although Italy has been for more than one century a great country of emigration), will serve to encourage this evolution in the knowledge that these cultural changes take time.</p>
	Cyprus		
	Latvia		
	Lithuania		<p>The Government of Lithuania has 3 basic documents where long-term strategic goals for migration management can be found:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Economic migration management strategy 2. Immigration policy milestones 3. Lithuania-EU strategic milestones document on migration and asylum policy for 2008-2013 <p>These documents define Lithuanian migration strategy as follows: Immigration (also immigration for worker from third countries) should be managed and can only be considered as a secondary measure in solving labour force shortages. Labour immigration should only compensate labour shortages that cannot be compensated by the national labour force, returning immigrants (Lithuanian nationals), and EU citizens. The Government seeks to retain national competency in the fields of economic migration and asylum.</p> <p>The government gives priority to the following areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encouraging return migration of Lithuanian nationals (i.e. to encourage Lithuanians who migrated to return home as well as temporary economic migrants to return home) 2. Using the national resources in solving labour shortages (increase participation of nationals into the labour market, including other groups of people (e.g. handicapped people) into the labour marker, increasing the internal mobility of the labour force, etc.)

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			<p>3. Giving to immigration a geographical priority: immigrants from the neighbouring countries should be preferred (Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, and South Caucasus).</p> <p>4. Giving priority to circular migration (i.e. immigrants should be encouraged to return after a defined time and have very limited possibilities to stay in Lithuania if the situation in the labour market changes)</p> <p>Concentrating on integration: priority should be given to integration measures for the third country nationals who have the right to stay in Lithuania, foremost, providing Lithuanian language courses</p>
	Luxembourg		
	Hungary	Yes	Hungary has no formally defined long-term strategic vision for migration management.
	Malta	No	Nil
	Netherlands		<p><u>Goals of the new migration policy:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Migration policy must be selective and responsive; - The system of residence permits must be as simple as possible; - Interested parties (companies, organisations) should get the confidence to share the responsibility for residence of the migrant; - The migration policy must be solid enough to withstand abuse and fraude; - The Dutch policy has to be closely developed in accordance with European policy for legal migration in the context of international co-operation. <p><u>Residence column system</u></p> <p>Starting point of the modern migration policy is to simplify the system of residence permits. The existing residence goals are arranged in 8 residence columns:</p> <p>I: Exchange (au pair, youth coming to The Netherlands under a Working Holiday programme)</p> <p>II: Study (inter alia university / higher vocational study students),</p> <p>III: Temporary labour (seasonal work)</p> <p>IV: Regular labour (migrant labour force that has to be in the possession of a working permit)</p> <p>V: Knowledge and talent (highly skilled migrants)</p> <p>VI: Family (family reunification)</p> <p>VII: Temporary humanitarian</p>

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			(this column does not have a fixed specification. Depending on certain situations one can apply for a residence permit in this context) VIII: Exceptional residence (inter alia continued residence on the basis of humanitarian grounds) <u>General characteristics of the residence system</u> - the general conditions for admittance and residence will stay in force (public order, integration regulations, etcetera); the amount of renewals of residence permits or changes in residence goals will be reduced. Whenever possible, these issues will be handled within the same residence column.
	Austria	No	No
	Poland		
	Portugal	YES	The text below was inserted in the preamble of the new immigration act (2007), and in the webpage. To promote legal immigration, to dissuade and oppose illegal immigration, to fight bureaucracy, taking advantage of new technologies in order to simplify and expedite procedures, and to create innovative solutions. Simplification of procedures, equality rights, fight against illegal immigration. New Immigration Act – A better Portugal.
	Romania	YES	The wider vision in the field of migration is set by the Romanian National Immigration Strategy for the period 2007-2010: „Migration is a process that must be managed and not a problem to be solved” The general objective of Romanian Immigration Office is "To achieve an appropriate management in the implementation of policies on migration and asylum"
	Slovenia		
	Slovak Republic		
	Finland	Yes	Yes. Vision 2012 “From migration to citizenship – high-class services in a changing world for the good of society and the individual. The Ministry of the Interior’s vision for 2012 is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finland will be the safest and most open country in Europe. Its international competitiveness will be enhanced by an active immigration policy and its citizens' sense of security born of living in an equal and safe society.
	Sweden	Yes	Yes. “A Sweden that with openness captures the potential benefits of global migration.”
	United Kingdom	Yes	Yes. “Secure our border, and control migration for the benefit of our country”. This translates into three strategic objectives for the UK Border Agency:

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We will protect our borders and national interests• We will tackle border tax fraud, smuggling and crime• We will implement fast and fair decisions
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