



Ad-Hoc Query 281 on Member States' categorisation of National Visas

Requested by GHK-COWI on 3rd December 2010

Compilation produced on 17th February 2011

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom (17 in Total)

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1. Background Information

The EMN Steering Board approved the selection of a study on Visa Policy as Migration Channel as part of the EMN Work Programme 2011. The key objective of the study is to analyse the nexus between visa policy and the management of migration to the EU Member States. The study aims to provide a thorough account of national and European visa policies and seeks to better explore the interdependence between the visa-ing practices of the EU member states and the control and management of migration flows. Best practices identified in the study may respond to the needs of the EU to improve quality and efficiency of the visa system and to further develop a common European migration policy.




The EMN Service Provider (GHK-COWI), in coordination with DE EMN NCP, SI EMN NCP and COM, is in the process of drafting Study Specifications for this Study. GHK-COWI invites all EMN NCPs to respond to the following questions:

[1. Please specify all types of categories of visas issued in your Member State \(e.g. A, B, C, D\) including the categories of third-country nationals covered \(e.g. education, employment, humanitarian reasons\):](#)

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[2. Please provide an overview of the types of data available in your Member State on the application and issuance of visas, specifying by visa types and categories if possible.](#)

2. Responses

		Wider Dissemination?	<i>1. Please specify all types of categories of visas issued in your Member State (e.g. A, B, C, D) including the categories of third-country nationals covered (e.g. education, employment, humanitarian reasons);</i>
	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	<p>1. Transit visa (type A)</p> <p>2. Short stay (type C)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - visiting family or friends - Tourist visit - Business visit - Sports and culture - short traineeship - Medical treatment - Entry exam - Transit through the Schengen area <p>3. Long Stay (type D)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family Reunification - Working - Long internship - Study - Au pair - Children under guardianship - Independent persons
	Estonia	Yes	Estonia issues airport transit visas (A type) and short-term visas (C type) according to the Visa Code and long-term visas (D type) as national visas. Issuing of visas is not restricted to specific categories of third-country nationals.




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+	Finland	Yes	<p>Finland utilises types A, C and VLTV, as stipulated by the EU visa regulations. We do not use D-type visa.</p> <p>Additional info: According to the concept paper for the research topic “Visa policy as immigration channel” the most central categories of immigrants from the visa policy point of view are on one hand those persons arriving with valid permits according to visa regulations, for example those family members of EU nationals, who intend to take up residence in the country, and seasonal workers who are exempted from the obligation to obtain a work permit. On the other hand, the second category consists of the groups of people who misuse the visa protocol, such as persons who enter into fake marriages, or provide other kind of false information in their visa applications, whose intention is to work without a work permit in the territory of the EU member states and persons seeking political asylum without valid grounds. The two EU directives currently being processed concerning seasonal workers and the internal transfers within companies cause great concern. If these directives are approved in the form they are currently presented, the risk of illegal entry into the EU territory will most probably increase. The examples listed below are based on experiences from various Finnish embassies. There are no statistics available for such cases.</p> <p>According to the national legislation the Family Member of a Finnish National has the right to apply for residence permit from Finland. In all other cases the application for the first residence permit must be submitted from the country of origin. This being the case, the boy/girlfriends of Finnish citizens apply for visa to Finland in order to visit their boy/girlfriend. Often it is clearly mentioned in the visa application that there is not intention to get married during the visit. However, in practice immediately after his/her visa has been granted, a relative or a friend of that person brings a certificate of non-impediment for the marriage to be legalised by the embassy in the country of origin. So, the boy/girlfriend arrives in Finland with a visa, gets married and consequently obtains the right to apply for a residence permit in the country. The visa application thus contained wrongful information, of which the embassy informs the relevant authorities in Finland. The experience shows that people arriving for marriage purposes in this manner mainly originate from Thailand, Turkey, Egypt, Nigeria and Gambia.</p> <p>The free movement of family members of EU nationals arriving from outside the Schengen area has partly caused a situation that can be described as paradoxical: the family members of own nationals in a given EU member state have been placed in a less favourable situation than those of other Schengen member states. An EU national making use of the right of free movement within the EU territory has to be granted visa in accelerated procedure and by paring down on other required formalities.</p> <p>If a family member of an EU national requiring a visa is either arriving together with an EU national or joining him/her later from a third country or from another EU member state, where the family member does not reside legally, in principle such visa application is looked at favourably.</p> <p>Seasonal workers arriving with a visa pose a risk of entering the territory with some other purpose than what is stated in the visa application. This risk materialises mainly with nationals of Thailand, Ukraine and Moldova. In Finland the business of hiring seasonal workers is controlled by strong intermediary agents (middle-men) attempting to guarantee that the workers (mainly berry pickers) obey immigration regulations. This is often done by questionable means, such as confiscating the workers' passports for the duration of their stay and / or by possibly creating a debt –relationship between the broker company and the worker/berry picker.</p>
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			<p>Suspicious of false marriage mostly concern Turkish nationals, but to a certain extent also some African states. Marriage with an EU-national is utilised to obtain a visa (or some other entry permit), when it would not be possible with any other means.</p> <p>Increasingly, legal ways are being utilised for illegal entry into the EU territory. In practice this means that wrongful information concerning the purpose of the travel is stated in the visa application or that wrong or falsified documents required as attachments to the application are supplied. Thus the visa obtained is genuine in itself, but the grounds for granting it are wrong. People enter the territory with a visa, though they intention to stay or work in the territory is of permanent nature. Quantitatively speaking, the top countries from which people arrive in Finland illegally are India, Bangladesh, China, Nigeria and to some extent countries of the Middle East.</p> <p>Most of the persons applying for political asylum in Finland have arrived in Schengen area with a visa. The purpose of entering the country has been other than stated in the visa application. The problem may be greater in those countries, where one Schengen state acts as a representative for another. Most asylum seekers arriving in Finland with a visa come from the ethnic minorities of Russia (Chechens) and from the countries of West Africa (Ghana, Nigeria) and from the Middle East (Iraq, Iran).</p> <p>Visa shopping) as such has no connection with moving to an EU member state / EU territory. However, this phenomenon is worth noting. It has to do with the fact that regardless of which country is the main goal of the journey, visa is applied for from the embassy of that EU member state where it is assumed that the handling of the application is faster and the approach more flexible. Mostly this concerns tourists, who return to the country of origin.</p>
	Germany	Yes	<p><u>Categories of visas:</u> Schengen-visas (for short-term stays of up to 3 months within a period of 6 months, or transit; airport transit) and national visas (for long-term stays of more than 3 months).</p> <p>In accordance with Schengen regulations there are two <u>main types of Schengen visas</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visas for airport transit (type “A”) • Visas for short-term stays of up to three months (“type C”), issued for, among other reasons, business travellers, tourism, visiting family members or attending events. If the visa only serves the objective of transit, it will be issued with the condition “transit”. The “C” visa with the condition “transit” replaces the former visa type B. Schengen visas are usually valid throughout the entire Schengen area. <p>Furthermore, Germany issues national visas, permitting a longer-term stay (“type D”) and being subject to national law. A national visa also allows for short-term stays in other Schengen States of up to three months. National visas are granted by Germany for different purposes, such as employment, immigration for family reasons, education (e.g. studies) and humanitarian reasons.</p>
	Ireland	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	Italy	Yes	<p>Visa types and validity</p> <p>At the moment of the request, this is the general framework in Italy.</p> <p>Visas may be individual - issued to an individual applicant and apposed to an individual passport - or group visas - issued to a group of</p>

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			<p>aliens, all having the same nationality of the passport-issuing country, and provided that the document is expressly and formally recognised by Italy.</p> <p>Group visas cannot exceed 30 days.</p> <p>Visas are divided into three main categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Uniform Schengen Visas (USV): valid for all the Contracting Parties' territories; they may be airport transit visas (type A), transit visas (type B), short-stay or travel visas (type C), valid for up to 90 days, for single or multiple entry. Exceptionally, the Schengen regulation enables important or well-known persons who frequently require a visa and who can provide the necessary guarantees, to be issued with C-type visas which permit a visit of up to 90 days in any half-year and are valid for one (C1), two (C2), three (C3) or five years (C5). 2. Limited Territorial Validity visas (LTV): these are only valid for the Schengen State whose representative issued the visa (or in particular cases for other Schengen states where specifically named) without any possibility of access to or transit through the territory of any other Schengen States. They are issued solely for humanitarian reasons, or in the national interest, or under international obligations as an exception to the common USV system. An alien may not directly apply for these visas, which are issued in a few specific cases by the diplomatic or consular representative when it deems it appropriate to issue the visa for the reasons as stated even though not all the conditions are met for the issue of a Uniform Schengen Visa, or when the applicant does not hold a validly recognised travel document, in particular emergencies or in case of need. 3. Long stay or "national" (NV) to Visas, which are only valid for visits that are longer than 90 days (type D), with one or more entries, in the territory of the Schengen State whose diplomatic representative issued the visa, and to transit through the territory of other Schengen States for a period of not more than five days. 4. Long stay or "national" visas which also have the value of short-term visas. <p>Visa applications must be in writing, giving all the details required on the special visa application form which must be signed by the applicant, and accompanied by one passport-size photograph. As a rule, aliens applying for visas must visit the diplomatic or consular offices in person to be interviewed on the reasons and circumstances of the visit. Applications must be accompanied by a valid travel document on which it is materially possible to appose the visa, together with any supporting documents that may be required. This documentation, depending on the type of visa requested or which the Mission deems it can issue, must necessarily state: the purpose of the visit means of transport and for the return journey means of support during the journey and stay accommodation arrangements.</p> <p>Once the visa application is accepted on the basis of the documentation produced by the applicant and the results of the interview, which is normally conducted directly and personally, the Diplomatic Mission carries out the statutory preliminary security checks. This involves line accessing the SIS (Schengen Information System) through the "world visa network", to consult the list of aliens to be refused admission into the Schengen area.</p> <p>The deadlines for issuing an entry visa are set out in section 5 (8) of Presidential Decree 394 of 31.8.1999, as amended by D.P.R. 334/2004, which states that the diplomatic/consular mission, "after ascertaining that the application can be entertained, and after conducting the necessary investigations in relation to the visa, including the preventive security checks, shall issue the visa within 90 days of the date of application" (30 days for paid employment, 120 days for self-employment).</p> <p>Pursuant to article 6(2) and (3) of Ministerial Decree 171 of 3 March 1997, these deadlines may be exceeded whenever it is necessary to carry out investigations or acquire information, documents and opinions from foreign authorities.</p> <p>Any cases of forged documents produced by foreign nationals for the purposes of obtaining an entry visa shall always been reported to the</p>
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			<p>Italian judicial authorities by the diplomatic or consular mission (article 331 of the code of criminal procedure). This applies both to the forgery of Italian documents and documents of foreign origin that are in any way used in support of a visa application.</p> <p>In the event that the diplomatic/consular authorities are acquainted with any fact, situation or condition that would have prevented the grant of an entry visa that has already in granted, they must issue a formal REVOCATION measure.</p> <p>The 20 types of entry visa</p> <p>The Interdepartmental Degree of 12.7.2000 introduced 20 different types of entry visa, as well as the requirements and the conditions for granting them:</p> <p>adoption, business, medical treatment, diplomatic, accompanying dependent, sports competitions, invitation, self-employment, made employment, mission, religious grounds, re-entry, choice of residence, family reunion, study, airport transit, transit, transport, tourism, working holidays.</p> <p>More info: http://www.esteri.it/MAE/EN/Ministero/Servizi/Stranieri/IngressoeSoggiornoInItalia.htm</p>
	<p>Latvia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>A type visas are issued only for transit through the international transit area of airports.</p> <p>C type visas (both uniform visa and visa with limited territorial validity) are issued for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) transit through the territory of the Republic of Latvia and other Member State(s) and 2) an intended stay in the territory of the Republic of Latvia and other the Member States of a duration of no more than three months in any six-month period from the date of first entry in the territory. <p>C type visas are issued for any purpose of entry, including <i>education, employment, humanitarian reasons</i> (primarily length of intended stay in a half-year period is evaluated). When purpose of entry and stay in Latvia is employment (or any other paid activities) C visa is issued with note “Valid in Latvia only with work permit” in “comments” section of the visa sticker.</p> <p>D type visas are issued for persons whose intended stay in Latvia exceeds 90 days in a six months period and purpose of entry and stay in Latvia complies with the norms of international law, the State interests of Latvia, or if it is related to <i>force majeure</i> or reasons of a humanitarian nature. As well D visas are issued to persons who have received a positive decision on issuance of residence permit and after arrival in Latvia they have to receive their residence permit in the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs. If it complies with the norms of <i>international law or the State interests of Latvia</i> D visas may be issued to persons whose purpose of entry and stay in Latvia is <i>education or employment</i>.</p>
	<p>Lithuania</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>There are 2 types of visas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schengen visa; - National long-term (D) visa. <p>For issuing Schengen visas the Regulation (EC) 810/2009 (Visa Code) is applied.</p> <p>The national long-term (D) visa can be single entry or multiple entry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single entry D visa is issued to those aliens who obtain the right to temporarily or permanently reside in Lithuania. That is, when an alien receives a decision to grant her or him a temporary or permanent residence permit, s/he needs to enter Lithuania in order to obtain the permit itself (the document). So the single entry D visa permits the alien to do that.


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			<p>- Multiple entry D visa is issued to those aliens whose purpose of entry to Lithuania is long-term stay. The categories of such aliens are listed by an order of the ministers of interior and external affairs. At the moment, the following persons can obtain a multiple entry D visa:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) students, who enter Lithuania to study according to international student exchange programmes or exchange programmes carried out between universities (high schools) of Lithuania and foreign countries; 2) students who have been admitted to a Lithuanian university (high school), when studies comprise at least 160 academic hours in a half of a year; 3) students who have been admitted to a Lithuanian university (high school) and who have applied for a temporary residence permit. In this case the D visa is issued for the period of examination of the application to issue a residence permit (maximum for 6 months); 4) aliens, who enter Lithuania in order to teach at universities (high schools) or to carry out scientific research at universities (high schools) or establishments of scientific research; 5) professional sportsmen or coaches, entering Lithuania to engage in sport's activities; 6) artists, entering Lithuania to engage in professional activities; 7) sailors, arriving to a boat which sails under the flag of Lithuania; 8) aliens who have a profession which is included in a list of understaffed professions. This list is approved by the minister of social protection of labour. In this case the D visa is issued for the period of examination of the application to issue a residence permit (maximum for 6 months); 9) sailors, who are crew members of a boat which is being repaired in Lithuania; 10) aliens who periodically enter Lithuania to work or engage in other legal activities, when their main place of residence is in a foreign state; 11) aliens whose maximum stay in Schengen is over and cannot be extended or whose period of stay without a visa is over and who cannot leave Lithuania because of one of the following reasons: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) sickness, some other sudden health distress or the state of the organism; b) personal reason which could not be foreseen and prevented while staying in Lithuania; c) force majeure; 12) other aliens, when their aim of entry to Lithuania – a long-term stay in Lithuania.
	<p>Luxembourg</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>Luxembourg delivers visas in accordance with the <i>EC regulation n°810/2010 establishing a Community Code on Visas (Visa Code)</i>. Currently the following Visa categories exist:</p> <p>Type A: Airport transit visa ('Visa de transit aéroportuaire')</p> <p>This visa constitutes an exception to the general rule allowing transit without a visa in the international zone of airport transit. This type of visa does not grant access to the Schengen territory.</p> <p>Type B: Transit visa ('Visa de transit')</p> <p>This visa allows the holder to pass through one or more Schengen state in order to get to another state. The necessary duration for this transit cannot exceed 5 days.</p>


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			<p>Visa C: Short-stay visa ('Visa de court séjour')</p> <p>This type of visa grants access to the Schengen territory for a maximum uninterrupted stay of 90 days over a period of 6 months. This type can be issued for single or multiple entries. In the case of multiple entries, the total duration of the different stays spent in the Schengen area must not exceed 90 days (over a period of 6 months).</p> <p>The mentioned visas (Schengen visas) are delivered for the following reasons/ linked to the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tourism - business - visits to family or friends - cultural stays - sports - official visits - medical reasons - studies - transit - airport transit - humanitarian grounds <p>Type VTL: Visa with territorial limitation ('Visa à territoire limité')</p> <p>This type of visa is a short stay visa, but limits access and stay to a specific territory (e.g. stay is limited to Luxembourg while no access is granted to other countries which are part of the Schengen area). This type of visa is issued in particular cases and is based on specific reasons.</p> <p>General example: In the case of applicants from Kosovo, they may be issued a VLT as their passport is not recognized/ accepted in all member states of the Schengen area.</p> <p>Type D: Long-stay or resident visa ('Visa en vue d'un long séjour- autorisation de séjour provisoire')</p> <p>This type of visa is a national visa delivered in view of a long-term stay (exceeding 90 days) in Luxembourg and known as a provisional resident permit.</p>
	<p>Netherlands</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>A and C visas: Commercial visits, visit to relatives, official (political) visits, visits for professional reasons, sport matches, tourism and invitations. D visas (information to be provided by the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdomrelations (BZK))</p> <p>D-visa</p> <p>Regular Provisional Residence Permit (mvv): national long-stay visa (D-type) for stays exceeding three months. The mvv is a special visa that most aliens must have to enter the Netherlands to apply for a regular residence permit (if they wish to stay for more than three months in the Netherlands on non-asylum related grounds). Some people are exempted from the mvv requirement. They can apply for a residence permit directly in the Netherlands. In the following cases, amongst others, an mvv is not required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The alien already has a Dutch residence permit.

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			<p>2. The alien is a national of one of the following countries: Australia, Canada, Japan, Monaco, New Zealand, South Korea, the United States of America or Vatican City, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland or the United Kingdom.</p> <p>4. The alien holds of an EC permanent residence permit, issued by another EU member state.</p> <p>The application for an mvv has to be done in person at the Dutch embassy or consulate in either the country of origin or continuous residence of the alien willing to come to the Netherlands. The Dutch embassy or consulate will send the application to the IND. The IND will assess the mvv application. On average an assessment will take 3 months.</p> <p>An mvv is also a transit visa, which gives the holder the right to travel through other Schengen countries to come to the Netherlands. An mvv is valid for 180 days.</p> <p>The mvv is given for the purpose of stay in the Netherlands. Different requirements apply and different documents are needed for each purpose of stay. These requirements are the same as the requirements to apply for a residence permit for each purpose of stay. There are 28 different purposes of stay. Most of them are related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staying with a family member - Studying - Working as an employee or on a self-employed basis - Au-pair - Exchange programs - Re-entry (including former Dutch citizens) - Medical reasons - Victim or witness of human trafficking or a person reporting human trafficking - An international treaty 						
	<p>Poland</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>On the basis of the Law on Foreigners of 2003 (OJ 2006 No 234 sec. 1694) and the Ministry of the Interior and Administration Regulation of 28 July 2010 on visas for foreigners (OJ 2010 No 151 sec. 1015) in the territory of Poland two types of visa are in rule: (C) Schengen Visa and (D) National Visa.</p> <p>With regard to the purpose of entry and residence in Poland, the following types of visa shall be issued to a foreigner:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="613 1214 1823 1430"> <tr> <td>Types of visa: Schengen (C) and National (D)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C/D 01 with the purpose of tourism</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C/D 02 with the purpose of visiting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C/D 03 with the purpose of participating in sport events</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C/D 04 with the purpose of economic activity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C/D 05 with the purpose of seasonal work</td> </tr> </table>	Types of visa: Schengen (C) and National (D)	C/D 01 with the purpose of tourism	C/D 02 with the purpose of visiting	C/D 03 with the purpose of participating in sport events	C/D 04 with the purpose of economic activity	C/D 05 with the purpose of seasonal work
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			<p>C/D 06 with the purpose of drive international public/road transport</p> <p>C/D 07 with the purpose of regular work permit</p> <p>C/D 08 with the purpose of cultural activity or/and participating in international conferences</p> <p>C/D 09 with the purpose of performance of official duties by state/international organizations representatives</p> <p>C/D 10 with the purpose of study in Poland (bachelor, MA or PhD studies)</p> <p>C/D 11 with the purpose of vocational training</p> <p>C/D 12 with other purpose than study or vocational training</p> <p>C/D 13 with the didactic purposes</p> <p>C/D 14 with the purpose of doing scientific researches</p> <p>C/D 15 with the purpose of treatment</p> <p>C/D 16 with the purpose of benefit from the residence permit for a fixed period, permit to settle or WE long – term resident's residence permit</p> <p>C/D 17 with the purpose of reunification to the citizen of EU member state, EFTA or Switzerland</p> <p>C/D 18 with the purpose of participate in the scholarship programme, educational or cultural programme</p> <p>C/D 19 with the purpose of humanitarian entry of a foreigner, also due to the Polish interest or international commitments</p> <p>C/D 20 with the purpose of other situations (e.g. procedural issues)</p> <p>D 21 with the purpose of applying for the refugee status and asylum in Poland</p> <p>D 22 with the purpose of procedural issues (cancelled 10 December 2010)</p> <p>D 23 with the purpose of relocation to Poland as a family member of Polish repatriates</p> <p>D 24 with the purpose of using privileges derived from the Poles Card</p> <p>D 25 with the purpose of repatriation of Polish citizens</p> <p>D 26 with the purpose of being granted temporary protection status</p>
			<p>Apart from that other types of visa may be issued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on the basis of art. 2 sec. 5 of European Parliament and Council Regulation - transit airport visa, • Schengen Visa with the purpose of transit, • diplomatic visa (shall be issued to the head of the diplomatic mission and the member of the diplomatic staff as well as to the head of the consular post and member of the consular staff of foreign states or to the other person treated equally under applicable laws, treaties or generally recognised international customs)



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	<p>Portugal</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Portugal issues A, C, and D type visas, as per the terms of the Visa Code and of national legislation (concerning D-type Visa). D-type Visas cover both Temporary Stay visas and Residency visas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temporary Stay Visas - Usually, the validity of Temporary Stay Visas may not exceed 6 months and they are issued to enable alien citizens to receive medical care in National Territory, as well as to transfer citizens of States that are party to the World Trade Organization, seasonal workers, scientific research or highly qualified activities, sports activities and accompanying foreign citizens while receiving medical care. - Residence Visa The Residence Visa enables its holder to enter Portugal in order to apply for residence permit, and has a validity period of 120 days. They are issued for purposes of carrying out a profession activity – either as an employee or as self-employed – scientific research or highly qualified activity, studying, students exchange programmes, traineeship at work, unremunerated voluntary work, university students' mobility and family reunion. - Special Border Visa – Exceptionally, there is also a possibility of issuing a Special Border Visa (D-type visa), by ministerial decision, exclusive to Portuguese territory, on grounds of humanitarian reasons or unequivocal national interest.
	<p>Slovak Republic</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Slovak Republic issues: A type visas (airport transit visa) C type visa (Schengen visa) D type visa (national visa) National (long-stay) visa may be issued in relation to the granted residence permit or in connection with Slovakia's commitments under international treaties or for the benefit of the Slovak Republic. The issuance of the visas is governed by the Visa Code and the Act on Stay of Aliens (No. 48/2002).</p>
	<p>Spain</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The visa may be of three different types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <u>Transit:</u> Foreigners in transit are those passing through the Schengen Area while travelling from a third country toward another country admitting this foreigner, or while remaining within the international transit area of a Spanish airport, without accessing Spanish territory, during flight stopovers or connections. Transit visas allow for transit one, two, or, exceptionally, more times, and may be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airport transit visa (A): permits the foreigner specifically obligated to this requirement to remain within the international transit area of a Spanish airport, without accessing Spanish territory, during flight stopovers or connections. • Land transit visa (C): permits the foreigner to pass through Spanish territory, for a maximum of five days, while travelling from one third country to another admitting said foreigner. o <u>Stay (C):</u> Situation applicable to a foreigner not holding a valid residence permit and authorized to stay in Spain for an uninterrupted period, or sum of consecutive periods, of which the total duration does not exceed ninety days per six-month period as of the date of the first entry, without prejudice to the provisions set forth for students or researchers and their family members. Depending on the purpose of the visa, distinctions are made between:

EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Member States' categorisation of National Visas



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General visa of stay: stays for purposes of tourism, or the like. This includes visas for multiple entries/exits. • Visa for a family member of an EU-citizen. • Employment visa: This includes stay visas for cases related with exceptions to work permits and seasonal work permits for terms of up to 90 days. ◦ <u>Residence (D):</u> Permission for residence in Spain. A distinction is made between the residence visa, work and residence visa and study visa. The tables differentiate the following cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residence visa: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Residence visa for family reunification. - Other residence visas not related with employment: permission for residence in Spain without exercising laboural or professional activities. • Residence and work permit: permission for exercising a laboural or professional activity, whether employed by others or self-employed. • Study visa: permission to remain in Spain in order to pursue courses, studies, research work or training.
	Sweden	Yes	<p>Sweden issue visas (Category C) for tourist visits, family visits, business visits, cultural and sporting links and more. Students and workers who intend to be here for less than three months are also granted a visa. Visas for airport transit visas (category A) are issued to the nationals set out in the Swedish Aliens Ordinance (Chapter 3. § 3) and Annex IV to the Visa Codex. Long stay visa (Category D) are issued primarily for family visits. Category B does not exist after 5 April 2010.</p>
	United Kingdom	Yes	<p>Points-based system – for third country migrants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tier 1, Highly Skilled Migrant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ (General) Migrant ◦ Investor ◦ Entrepreneur ◦ Post-Study Work • Tier 2, Skilled Worker (with a job offer) • Tier 3, Low skilled worker (currently suspended) • Tier 4, Students General and child • Tier 5, Temporary Worker, Youth Mobility Scheme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Including Government authorised exchange, international agreements and charity workers <p>Other (non-points-based system) visas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseas domestic workers in private households

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permit free employment • Returning residents • Right of Abode • Settlement (partners, children and other family members, also Refugee Resettlement Programme) • Transit • UK Ancestry • Visitors <p>Humanitarian visas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave to enter/remain (temporary) • Indefinite leave to remain • Humanitarian Protection • Discretionary Leave
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		Wider Dissemination?	2. Please provide an overview of the types of data available in your Member State on the application and issuance of visas, specifying by visa types and categories if possible.
	Belgium	Yes	<p>For the following variables, the data for each type of visa (especially for type C and D) are available (from 2004 on). This for applications, as well as for issued visa.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diplomatic Post - Nationality applicant - Reason (category) - Age - Sex - Date of application - Decision - Date of decision
	Estonia	Yes	<p>Data available on the application and issuance of a visa does not differ by type. Estonia's national visa register allows extraction of following data:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) applied for visas 2) issued visas 3) refused visas 4) visas by type (A, C, D)






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			<p>5) visas by consulates 6) approval of visas by authorized body 7) applied extensions of period of stay 8) approved extensions of period of stay 9) denied extensions of period of stay 10) annulment and revocation of visas</p> <p>The above list is non-exhaustive, but lists main data extractable from the national visa register.</p>
	Finland	Yes	In the handling of visa applications, Finland uses both Schengen visa-statistics and national visa statistics as comparative reference material. These statistics reflect the size of the illegal entry phenomenon as well as the number of visas denied. In addition we utilise national registers and whenever needed, consult the authorities of other Schengen countries or national authorities in the countries of origin.
	Germany	Yes	<p>Germany collects and publishes data on the number of visas applied for and visas issued, disaggregated by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consular post that issued the visa • type of visa: type "A" (airport transit visa), type "B" (transit visa, replaced by type "C" with the condition "transit"), type "C" (Schengen visa), type "D" (national visa), "LTV" visa ("limited territorial validity"), "ADS" visas ("approved destination status", only for Chinese nationals). Please see <p> Visastatistik 2009 Europa.pdf</p> <p>Moreover, the Federal Foreign Office collects certain data on the number of visa applications processed, visas issued, applications rejected and applications dismissed, disaggregated by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consular posts • types of visa: "A", ("B"), "C" and "D" (Please note that not all of these data are usually made available to the public. Cross-classifications are not possible.) <p>Nationality, age and sex of visa applicants are not statistically captured. Likewise, applicants that are issued with a visa by Germany when acting on behalf of another EU Member State (representation), are not recorded. When D-visa (national visas for longer-term stays) are issued, the purpose of the intended stay in Germany (e.g. family reasons, family reunification for children, remunerated activities, au-pair, studies etc.) is recorded.</p>
	Ireland	No	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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	Italy	Yes	First of all: Requested/Issued visas. As regard issued Visas: Year, Gender, typology (USV, LTV, NV), type (A, B, C, D), reasons, consular office of release, country of citizenship, refusal reasons.
	Latvia	Yes	All visa applications and issued, refused, annulled and revoked visas as well as visa stickers are registered in the National Visa Information System (NVIS). NVIS ensures extraction of following overviews: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) In a particular period of time in the visas issuing institutions (by one, in all or by groups, for example, in consulates or at the border) requested, issued visas (by categories), as well as negative decisions (refused, annulled, revoked visas); 2) In a particular period of time in all visas issuing institutions (by groups – embassies and consulates, border crossing points, the OCMA and the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) issued visas by the nationality of the visa applicant. NVIS provides a possibility to create overviews by other criterions by combining them, for example, aim of the entry, types of visa, validity of visa etc. (data in the NVIS is entered in accordance with the provisions of the VIS Regulation).
	Lithuania	Yes	It is possible to get statistics according to the place of the issuance of the visa (according to the issuing authority), according to the type of the visa issued (A, B (when they were still issued), C, D). The data is available beginning with the end of 2007.
	Luxembourg	Yes	Every year the Ministry of Foreign Affairs forwards information on the application and issuance of visas to the European Commission thereby adapting the provided information to the given request. This information generally contains: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) total number of visa applications 2) total number of delivered visas 3) total number of visa refusals 4) information on the places of issuance (by consulates/common visa application centres dealing with the requests). Other data: -total number of issued/refused visas by each visa type (A, B, C, D) and by visa category (reasons) -information on the applicants: issuing/refusal by nationality, sex, profession and reason for application (category). To summarize: Data is available on the total number of visa applications and granted decisions (both issuance and refusal) for each type and category. Additional data on the applicants (sex, profession, nationality, reason for application) for each type and category is also available but on special request.
	Netherlands	Yes	A and C visas Information related to: gender, age, type of visa, deciding authority (Embassy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior and Kingdom relations), the implemented refusal motive(s), length of stay, entry (single / multiple), amount of visa dealt with, amount of single versus multiple visa, amount of visa free of charge, amount of visa per refusal motive, amount of visa per type of visa, average time of processing a visa application, amount of visas processed on behalf of Schengen partners, amount of visas processed by the




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			<p>Schengen partners. This information can be provided for one or more regions (i.e. Asia, Africa, etc.), for one or more locations, for one or more nationalities, for one or more professions. Also combined information can be provided. Please note that a new registration system is gradually implemented between 1 October 2007 until around 1 May 2008. This system widely expanded availability of data. For the period before the transition the availability of data is limited.</p> <p>For D-visa the following information can be provided: gender, age, nationality, purpose of stay, decision on application, result of civic integration examination at the embassy, detailed information about the sponsor (a person, organisation etc), although that information is not always complete. Amount of D-visa dealt with, average time of processing an application. Also combined information can be provided.</p>						
	Poland	Yes	<p>In visa matters, the data collection comprises a register on visas issued to foreigners. Administrative body holding the register in Poland is not directly mentioned; art. 125 sec. 1 par. 1 of Law on Foreigners states that the visa register shall be run - in the scope of functions - by the commanding officer of the Border Guard checkpoint, a voivod, a consul and the Head of the Office for Foreigners.</p> <p>So, data considering visas (Schengen and National) issued to foreigners may be presented in the statistics of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (number of visa applications and decisions issued to foreigners in Polish consular in third countries, by nationality, type of visa – from sec. 1 to 26 and diplomatic visa- and by year, mainly 2008-2010) and the Office for Foreigners in case of visas issued to foreigners by Voivods in the territory of Poland (by year 2004-2010, nationality, the purpose of stay in Poland and its prolongation).</p>						
	Portugal	Yes	Type of visa, nationality and sex of the holder, date of the request data of issuance, validity and duration of the visa.						
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>Available data are as follows: Numbers by category (to 31 October 2010):</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="611 970 1599 1034"> <thead> <tr> <th>Total</th> <th>Schengen visa</th> <th>National visa</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>42 107</td> <td>41 099</td> <td>1008</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Slovak Republic collects data on the basis of desegregation by: type of visa; country of consular post; citizenship of applicant; rejected visa applications. The Slovak Republic does not collect data on the basis of desegregation by category (i.e. purpose). So far the Slovak Republic is not issuing visas on behalf of other EU MS. Difficulties may occur in providing the data for years before EU accession in a quality as described above.</p>	Total	Schengen visa	National visa	42 107	41 099	1008
Total	Schengen visa	National visa							
42 107	41 099	1008							

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	Spain	Yes	<p>The statistics on visas issued in consular offices, as reflected in the Naional Statistical Plan is the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Immigration and Emigration, and provides annual information on visas grouped into the following categories:</p> <p>Visas issued in Spain: 2009</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="607 379 2092 608"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Total</th> <th rowspan="2">Airport Transit</th> <th rowspan="2">Airport through Spain</th> <th colspan="4">Short-term</th> <th colspan="4">Residence</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Total</th> <th>Short-term (general)</th> <th>Relative to EC national</th> <th>Work purposes</th> <th>Total</th> <th>Residence without working</th> <th>Residence and work</th> <th>Study</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Family Reunification</th> <th>Others without working</th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td align="center">920.284</td> <td align="center">1.153</td> <td align="center">16.772</td> <td align="center">744.897</td> <td align="center">729.579</td> <td align="center">14.420</td> <td align="center">898</td> <td align="center">69.188</td> <td align="center">4.075</td> <td align="center">37.688</td> <td align="center">46.511</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>On another hand, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation renders information on Spain to the Commission annually, per the approval of the Council Decision on the exchange of statistical information on uniform visas issued by member States, diplomatic missions and consular offices.</p> <p>The data does not coincide exactly with the officially published statistics due to different reference dates during data extraction.</p>	Total	Airport Transit	Airport through Spain	Short-term				Residence				Total	Short-term (general)	Relative to EC national	Work purposes	Total	Residence without working	Residence and work	Study								Family Reunification	Others without working			920.284	1.153	16.772	744.897	729.579	14.420	898	69.188	4.075	37.688	46.511
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920.284	1.153	16.772	744.897	729.579	14.420	898	69.188	4.075	37.688	46.511																																		
	Sweden	Yes	<p>The Visa codex Visas and its manual and the Migration Board's general guidelines for the handling of visa applications are used as the basis for dealing with the individual cases.</p>																																									
	United Kingdom	Yes	<p>Travellers to the UK that require an entry clearance visa must apply outside the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man and in advance of travelling. An application for entry clearance as a visitor can be made at any British diplomatic post offering a visa service. All other entry clearance applications must be made to the British diplomatic post in the country or territory where you are living. For more information see: http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/travellingtotheuk/beforetravel/entryclear/ . A list of the British Diplomatic Posts is available from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website at http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-abroad/find-an-embassy/ .</p> <p>The UK collects data on the number of visa applications and subsequent decisions for applicants and their dependants. Data is available on the numbers of visas issued. This will include visas that have been issued but are not subsequently used and some double counting (e.g. if an applicant doesn't take up their visa and subsequently applies for another one).</p> <p>Passenger arrivals data (landing card data) is also available, but is currently unpublished. This data is collected from all non-EEA travellers at the point of entry to the UK and provides information on visas that are taken up. It also provides data on entry of non-visa nationals.</p> <p>Data on refugees given temporary and indefinite leave to remain, on refugee resettlement programme refugees and on asylum seekers granted discretionary leave and humanitarian protection is also available.</p>																																									
