



**Ad-Hoc Query on Dominican transit travellers**

**Requested by NL EMN NCP on 31 May 2011**

**Compilation produced on 8 July 2011**

**Responses from Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom plus Norway (15 in Total)**

*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.*

**1. Background Information**

Since a couple of months the Dutch Immigration and Naturalisation Service receives information from our national carrier the KLM about Dominican travellers who don't show up at the return flight Istanbul-Amsterdam.









The Dominican travellers first take the plane from Punta Cana (Dominican Republic) to Amsterdam (Schiphol airport) and transfer to the flight Amsterdam-Istanbul by KLM. For months we see a trend of a high number of Dominican travellers who don't show up at the return flight (Istanbul-Amsterdam). For Dominican nationals there is a visa free regime for Turkey.

We have some information that the Dominicans try to cross the Turkish/Greek border to enter the Schengen area. Some time ago Dominican nationals have been expelled by the Greek authorities by a charter plane.

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It would be appreciated if you could answer these questions and return your responses before **28 June 2011**.








## 2. Responses<sup>1</sup>

		Wider Dissemination? <sup>2</sup>	1. Do you have information about Dominican nationals who transit at your airport with the end destination Istanbul airport and who don't show up at the return flight? 2. If so, what kind of measures have been taken to stop this? 3. Do you have an increased influx of illegal Dominican nationals in your country? 4. Do you think the introduction of visa requirements for airport transits for nationals of the Dominican Republic will be the solution to solve this problem?
	Austria	Yes	
	Belgium	Yes	1. We have no such information, the phenomena is not known to us. There is no increase of "no-shows" on return flights from Turkey/Istanbul. 2. / 3. No 4. We share the following concern of the Netherlands: "It's still possible for Dominican nationals to transit outside the Schengen area to travel to Turkey."
	Bulgaria	Yes	
	Cyprus	Yes	
	Czech Republic	Yes	
	Denmark	Yes	
	Estonia	Yes	1. We have no information of such cases. 2. – 3. No, we do not have an increased influx of illegal Dominican nationals in your country. 4. Even though such cases haven't occurred in Estonia, we do think it would provide a solution to current situation in the Netherlands.
	Finland	Yes	1. So far Finland has witnessed only one Dominican national who did not show up at the return flight (2010). 2. No. See above.












<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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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			3. No. 4. N/A
	France	Yes	
	Germany	Yes	
	Greece	Yes	
	Hungary	Yes	<p>Because of the very limited number of the Dominican citizens residing in Hungary, the detailed information concerning the admission of Dominican citizens is not available. Please find enclosed the statistical data for Dominican citizens residing in Hungary.</p> <p><b>Statistical data on Dominican national:</b></p> <p><b>2010:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of applicants for residence permit: 8 Permitted: 7</li> <li>Number of applications for visas for a validity period not exceeding 90 days: 15 Permitted :14</li> <li>Number visas for a validity period of longer than 90 days:7 Permitted: 5</li> <li>Number of application of the family members of Hungarian citizens: 4 Permitted: 3</li> <li>Number of permitted immigration permits: 2</li> </ol> <p><b>First quarter of 2011:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of applications for visas for a validity period not exceeding 90 days: 2 Permitted : 2</li> <li>Number of permitted permanent residence permit: 1</li> <li>Number of permitted national permanent residence permit: 4</li> <li>Number of permitted residence permit: 1</li> <li>Number of permitted some kind of permit of the family members of Hungarian citizens: 7</li> </ol>
	Ireland	Yes	
	Italy	Yes	In Italy Dominican national do not need airport transit visa. We do not have any data referring to flights to Istanbul. Nevertheless, the phenomenon of irregular migration from the Dominican Republic is not significant and, according to 2010 data, the amount of border refusals is equal to 11 units.
	Latvia	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are no cases when the Dominican nationals transit at Riga airport with the end destination – Istanbul airport, so there are also no cases when they do not show up at the return flight.</li> <li>No</li> <li>No</li> <li>The Republic of Latvia agrees with the Netherlands that the introduction of the transit visa for the nationals of the Dominican Republic and the possibility for the border guards to carry out checks in the airport transit zone on possession of</li> </ol>

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			such visas by the third country nationals could be a solution for the above-mentioned problem.
	Lithuania	Yes	N/A.
	Luxembourg	Yes	
	Malta	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Malta has not encountered this modus operandi.</li> <li>2. N/A</li> <li>3. No.</li> <li>4. The introduction of the ATV will alleviate the problem but it will not solve it. From the information given it appears that the Dominicans are managing to enter Schengen through Turkey and not when they arrive at the transit airport prior to their arrival in Istanbul.</li> </ol>
	Netherlands	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Every week we receive the numbers from the KLM.</li> <li>2. Our border guards take special attention to this group and do check them with special interest.</li> <li>3. No, we don't have an increased influx.</li> <li>4. Only if Dominican nationals will be set on Annex IV of the Visacode (common list of third countries whose nationals are required to be in possession of an airport visa) this can be an solution for the Schengen area. Although it's still possible for Dominican nationals to transit outside the Schengen area to travel to Turkey.</li> </ol>
	Poland	Yes	
	Portugal	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We do not have any information concerning Dominican nationals transiting at national airports, as referred.</li> <li>2. NA.</li> <li>3. No, we don't register an increased influx.</li> <li>4. Regarding this question, we agree with the Dutch position.</li> </ol>
	Romania	Yes	
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No.</li> <li>2. N/A.</li> <li>3. The Slovak Republic does not have an increased influx of illegal migrants from Dominican Republic.</li> <li>4. N/A.</li> </ol>
	Slovenia	Yes	We do not have Dominican nationals in airport transit.
	Spain	Yes	
	Sweden	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No.</li> <li>2. -</li> </ol>

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			<p>3. SE has no increased influx of Dominican nationals.</p> <p>4. -</p>
	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. No</p> <p>2. No</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. Not a problem</p> <p>NB 1204 visas were issued to people with Dominican Republic nationality from April 2010 to April 2011. Of these 1 was 'direct airside transit', 7 were 'visit- in transit' and 14 were 'joining ship'.</p>
	<b>Norway</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. Norwegian authorities have observed no such pattern.</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. In general, it seems that very few Dominican nationals enter Norway. Norwegian authorities have hardly registered asylum applicants from the Dominican Republic the last two years. A very small number of Dominican citizens have been refused/expelled from Norway in 2010 and 2011. These persons have been transferred either to other European Countries where they had a residence permit or to their country of origin.</p> <p>4. As explained above, Dominican nationals hardly constitute a problem for Norwegian authorities.</p>