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Ad-Hoc Query on 2024.58 Involving and consulting third country nationals during the process of developing migration policies

Requested by EMN NCP Netherlands on 22 October 2024

Compilation produced on 12 December 2024

Responses from EMN NCP Austria, EMN NCP Belgium, EMN NCP Croatia, EMN NCP Cyprus, EMN NCP Czech Republic, EMN NCP Estonia, EMN NCP Finland, EMN NCP France, EMN NCP Germany, EMN NCP Greece, EMN NCP Hungary, EMN NCP Italy, EMN NCP Latvia, EMN NCP Lithuania, EMN NCP Luxembourg, EMN NCP Netherlands, EMN NCP Poland, EMN NCP Portugal, EMN NCP Slovakia, EMN NCP Slovenia, EMN NCP Sweden (21 in Total)

Exported for: Wider Dissemination

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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Directorate-General for Migration (DGM), part of the Ministry of Asylum and Migration of the Netherlands, is interested in learning about the possible ways in which EMN Member and Observer countries involve and/or consult third country nationals (TCNs) during the process of developing migration policies. This query focuses on migration policies in a broad sense, including but not limited to: return, asylum, border management and labour migration policies. It also concerns 'TCNs' in a broad sense, meaning individuals who are or have been amongst the target group of migration policies. Furthermore, the query specifically addresses the involvement of TCNs themselves within the process of developing migration policies, for instance by organizing consultation structures or by disseminating surveys amongst TCNs, rather than the involvement of NGOs or immigration lawyers representing TCNs.

The reason behind this query is that the Dutch Directorate for Migration is in the early stages of considering if and how such general structures to consult TCNs in the process of developing migration policies could be organized in the Netherlands. The answers to this ad-hoc query will be used as input for the process of potentially developing such structures. The Directorate also welcomes all Member and Observer countries that would be interested in organizing further exchange on this topic.

Please note that the first question refers to the personal involvement of TCNs themselves, rather than representing TCNs through consulting NGOs or immigration lawyers.

Please also note that the first question specifically refers to the policy development on a federal/national level and not on the level of local governments.

Please note that in the fourth question, we are referring to organisations that act as an intermediary between the government authorities and the TCNs, e.g by offering organisational or technical support, and/or providing access to their network, with the aim

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of allowing TCNs themselves to be involved in policy making processes.

We would like to ask the following questions:

- 1. Question 1: In your country, are TCNs structurally involved/consulted in the development of migration policies on the national/ministerial level? YES/NO. If yes, please explain for which area of migration policy and explain the way(s) or structures through which TCNs are involved.**
- 2. Question 2: If your answer is yes to Q1, at what point(s) in the policy development process are TCNs involved on the national/ministerial level?**
- 3. Question 3: If your answer is yes to Q1, how are TCNs identified and contacted for the involvement/consultation during migration policy development (i.e. selection criteria and means of contact)?**
- 4. Question 4: If your answer is yes to Q1, do you make use of an external party or intermediary to involve TCNs in the development of migration policy on the national level? YES/NO. If yes, please explain the role division between the authorities, the intermediary and the TCNs.**
- 5. Question 5: If your answer is yes to Q1, what are lessons learned in organizing migrant involvement/consultation in the development of migration policies? (e.g. effective ways to identify and contact TCNs for participation and the type of structures used)**


We would very much appreciate your responses by **12 November 2024**.

2. RESPONSES

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		Wider Dissemination ²	
	EMN NCP Austria	Yes	<p>1. We are not aware of any personal involvement/consultation of third-country nationals in the development of migration policies on the national/ministerial level in Austria.</p> <p>2. n/a</p> <p>3. n/a</p> <p>4. n/a</p>

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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			5. n/a
	EMN NCP Belgium	Yes	<p>1. No. Belgium does not have any mechanisms in place to foresee a structural involvement or consultation of TCNs in the development of migration policies on the ministerial level. However, the office of the Secretary of State for Migration and Asylum does have ad-hoc and structural contact with civil society organisations that defend the rights of TCNs. Myria, the Federal Migration Centre, also plays an important role in relaying the positions and claims brought forward by CSOs or even TCNs directly to the level of policymaking (Parliament, contacts with the Cabinet of the Secretary of State, etc.). Although formally, TCNs do not directly participate in the development of reception policies in Belgium, indirectly, through various sources such as the results of resident satisfaction surveys or studies (notably by the national reception authority) that include activities aimed at gathering the opinions and experiences of residents, etc., contribute to the reflection process in the development of reception policies</p> <p>2. NA</p> <p>3. NA</p> <p>4. NA</p>



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			5. NA
	EMN NCP Croatia	Yes	1. No. 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A 5. N/A
	EMN NCP Cyprus	Yes	1. No 2. N/A 3.

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			<p>N/A</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. N/A</p>
	EMN NCP Czech Republic	Yes	<p>1. no</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>
	EMN NCP Estonia	Yes	<p>1. In general the strategic documents like the Internal Security Development Plan 2020–2030 is the subject of interorganizational consultation where also general public or non-governmental or international organisations can submit their input. Relevant parties from the public, private and third sectors were involved in the preparation of the development plan and the process was based on the</p>

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		<p>good practice of involvement. Nearly 100 organizations and hundreds of people participated in the several major seminars and smaller thematic discussions that took place in all counties in Estonia. As organizations, we had the following involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (ÜRO Pagulase Ülemvoliniku Amet) • International Organization for Migration (Rahvusvaheline Migratsiooniorganisatsioon) • NGO Estonian Refugee Aid (MTÜ Eesti Pagulasabi) • Contact point of Tallinn University European Migration Network in Estonia (TLÜ Euroopa Rändevõrgustiku Kontaktpunkt Eestis) <p>Though there was no systematic involvement of foreigners, then the general public was involved in the consultation processes.</p> <p>2. See the answer to the first question.</p> <p>3. See the answer to the first question.</p> <p>4. No.</p> <p>5. The inclusion of many different parties in the preparation of the development plan can be pointed out as a good practice.</p>
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+	EMN NCP Finland	Yes	<p>1.</p> <p>Yes. In Finland, the Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations (Etno) has served as a national forum for dialogue since 2015. The Advisory Board is appointed for four years at a time and is chaired by the Ministry of Justice. The tasks, activities and composition of Etno are laid down in the Government Degree 771/2015. The main purpose of Etno is to enable dialogue and cooperation between immigrants, ethnic minorities, authorities, political parties and civil society organisations. The Advisory Board has a Chair, 2-3 Vice Chairs and a maximum of 34 members, ten of which have to be representatives of immigrants and ethnic minorities. Etno can also set up working groups, issue opinions and statements and make proposals or act as a partner in research and development projects and is therefore able to influence decision-making, legislation and structures of society. However, Etno does not have power of decision or executive power and its recommendations are not legally binding.[1]</p> <p>The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment cooperates closely with Etno in the preparations of integration policies. Consultations with Etno are held i.e. in the preparations of major legislative changes as well as in the preparations of the Government Integration Programme, which sets goals for the promotions of integration. The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment has also launched an Integration Partnership Programme[2], which brings together different stakeholders in the field of integration to cooperate on work related to integration and social inclusion.</p> <p>In addition to Etno, several non-permanent ways of involvement of TCNs have been or are currently in practice in Finland. In 2024 an action plan by the Government of Finland for combatting racism and promoting equity was introduced. In the evaluation and monitoring stage of the action plan different stakeholders are involved. The stakeholders include communities that face racism and discrimination, NGOs, representative organisations, authorities and work-life actors. As a part of the action plan, annual societal round table discussion shall be carried out on themes regarding equality and non-discrimination led by the Prime Minister of Finland. The first round table discussion has been held already with the theme of addressing racism and discrimination at work.</p>
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		<p>The round table involved 40 key operators from the labour market, education and civil society. Based on the discussion, several measures were taken up for further study.[1]</p> <p>The implementation of the Talent Boost -program for study and labour migration co-coordinated by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment and Ministry of Education and Culture is supported by a steering group consisting of stakeholders such as municipalities and higher education institutions, which are meant to channel the views of their international residents/students. In addition, there are regular information-sharing and networking events around Talent Boost organized for a wider audience, including international talents themselves (especially those who have immigrated to Finland based on work or studies).[2]</p> <p>In legislative preparation, the aim is to involve stakeholders as widely as possible.</p> <p>The Act on the Promotion of Immigrant Integration states that local-level authorities shall develop integration as multi-sectoral cooperation. Cooperation involves the municipality, the employment and economic development office, the police and organisations, associations and bodies providing measures and services promoting integration. A municipality or more than one municipality jointly may, in cooperation local labour market, entrepreneur and non-governmental organisations, appoint a local-level advisory board for the development of the planning and implementation of integration and for the promotion of good ethnic relations. The NGOs participating in local level cooperation often include representatives of migrant organisations.</p> <p>In the autumn of 2022, the Ministry of the Interior of Finland organized several immigration dialogues, the aim of which was building constructive discussion on immigration and increasing understanding between different people and groups as well as promoting integration and inclusion of immigrants[3]. The discussions involved both people born in Finland and those who have moved to Finland either recently or some time ago. Immigration-related authorities also took part in the conversations, for</p>
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		<p>example various ministries and the Finnish Immigration Service. One of the conclusions of the dialogues was to initiate a wide-ranging reform of integration processes, involving immigrants from different backgrounds at all stages of planning and testing.[4]</p> <p>In 2021 an action plan for combatting racism and promoting good relations was introduced by the Ministry of Justice[5]. One of the objectives of the action plan was to promote the involvement of immigrant groups. As a part of the preparation of the action plan several workshops took place. The participants of these workshops included NGOs, volunteers, authorities and local politicians. Also, the monitoring group of the implementation of the action plan involved NGOs representing different population groups, among other actors.[6]</p> <p>[1] Uutta vauhtia yhdenvertaisuuteen Suomessa : Valtioneuvoston toimenpideohjelma rasismien torjumiseksi ja yhdenvertaisuuden edistämiseksi</p> <p>[2] Talent Boost - Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment</p> <p>[3] Immigration dialogues - Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>[4] Immigration Dialogues : Diverse discussions on the daily life and politics of immigration</p> <p>[5] Rasismien vastaisen toimintaohjelman tavoitteena yhdenvertainen Suomi - Oikeusministeriö</p> <p>[6] Yhdenvertainen Suomi – Valtioneuvoston toimintaohjelma rasismien torjumiseksi ja hyvien väestösuhteiden edistämiseksi</p> <p>[1] The Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations - Ministry of Justice</p> <p>[2] The partnership programme is leading us towards an inclusive society Integration</p> <p>2.</p> <p>TCNs are mostly involved in the data collection or preparation stage of policy development process. This applies for all the projects and actors listed in Q1. Regarding Talent Boost, feedback from TCNs</p>
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		<p>may also lead to restructuring of the policy at the implementation stage (within political and budgetary limits). The municipalities and local level authorities cooperate with NGOs and representatives of TCNs in the implementation of integration policies and development services at the local level.</p> <p>When requesting comments on draft legal proposals the Lausuntopalvelu.fi web service maintained by the Ministry of Justice, which implements the public administration consultation procedure as an electronic service, has been used. The service also offers citizens and organizations the opportunity to express their opinions and views by commenting on draft legal proposals. The purpose of the service is to facilitate the requesting comments on draft legal proposals, citizen participation and access to information, and to increase the transparency and quality of the preparation and requesting comments on draft legal proposals.</p> <p>3. Regarding Talent Boost, there are mailing lists to get invited to information/networking events. Webinars and hearings in English open to all interested participants have also been organised on e.g. legislative projects.</p> <p>In the integration field, there is a website[1] as well as a newsletter that are used for information dissemination. Comments from stakeholders on draft legal proposals are asked via a website (Lausuntopalvelut.fi).</p> <p>[1] Frontpage Integration</p> <p>4. N/I</p>
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			<p>5.</p> <p>Regarding Talent Boost, it has been key to engage with TCNs at a sufficiently early stage and in issues where there is genuine leeway to choose between policy alternatives. On the other hand, it has proven valuable to discuss also politically sensitive and controversial topics openly, thereby alleviating potential misconceptions and concerns.</p>
	EMN NCP France	Yes	<p>1.</p> <p>NO for matters related to return, asylum, border management, and economic migration. YES for integration policies.</p> <p>At the political level, there are no formal participation mechanisms in place to collect the opinions of TCNs. However, parliamentary proceedings seem more open to listen civil society actors, particularly through commission hearings during legislative processes concerning asylum and migration.</p> <p>In the absence of direct participation from TCNs, local actors and associations can be involved in the development of reception and integration policies, thereby ensuring indirect representation of TCNs' interests. For instance, the National Reception Plan for Asylum Seekers and Refugee Integration (<i>Schéma national d'accueil des demandeurs d'asile et d'intégration des réfugiés</i>, SNADAIR) serves as a roadmap designed by the Ministry of the Interior to improve the reception and integration of asylum seekers and refugees. This plan was developed in consultation with all stakeholders involved in asylum policy, ensuring indirect representation of TCNs.</p> <p>The establishment of the Interministerial Delegation for Refugee Reception and Integration (<i>Délégation interministérielle pour l'accueil et l'intégration des réfugiés</i>, Diair) in 2018 brought the voices of refugees to the forefront. This delegation serves as the main framework for developing tools to facilitate dialogue between TCNs, particularly refugees, and the national government. The Diair is tasked with implementing the National Strategy for the Integration of Refugees, specifically organizing dialogue</p>

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		<p>between migrant groups and the national government. Refugee participation in civic life has been one of the priorities of the National Reception and Integration Strategy led by the Ministry of the Interior since 2018. This participatory approach, aimed at fostering exchanges between TCNs and local populations, is key to facilitating integration into the host society. The Diar operates under the leadership of an Interministerial Delegate for Refugee Reception and Integration, who is responsible for shaping and coordinating refugee reception and integration policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The Academy for Refugee Participation</u> (<i>Académie pour la participation des personnes réfugiées</i>) <p>In 2020, the Diar, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the French Institute for International Relations (<i>l'Institut français des relations internationales</i>, Ifri) partnered to create the Academy for Refugee Participation. The Academy aims to enhance refugee participation in public policies and programs that concern them. The Academy's laureates are engaged to contribute their experiences and perspectives to various discussions and debates. In 2024, the Diar is supporting the third cohort of the program, comprising 10 laureates. For example, in November 2024, this cohort was consulted to assist in revising the user guide for asylum seekers in France. The long-term goal is to make refugee participation a structural and formalized element of programs and policies related to refugee reception and integration. This objective could be implemented at the regional level by decentralized services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The Public Innovation Lab</u> (<i>Laboratoire d'innovation publique, Lab'R</i>) <p>Diar's Lab'R workshops bring together different participants, including representatives from government agencies, businesses, associations, researchers, and refugees. These working groups focus on specific themes to collaboratively develop practical tools (e.g., infographics, best practice guides, video scenarios) and find collective solutions to identified issues. The workshops aim to share experiences, collaboratively assess challenges, and propose tailored responses. At the end of these sessions, an operational kit is created to support future project leaders and policymakers.</p>
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		<p>Another pillar of Lab'R is The Agora, an annual forum for dialogue that brings together a diverse range of stakeholders involved in integration policies. This forum may also include laureates from the Academy for Refugee Participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The National Association of Welcoming Cities and Territories (Association nationale des villes et territoires accueillants, Anvita)</u> <p>At the local level, initiatives encouraging the participation of TCNs have grown significantly. Some cities are part of networks that view TCNs as full citizens, regardless of their administrative status, because they live, study, and work within these territories. The National Association of Welcoming Cities and Territories (Anvita) brings together cities committed to the unconditional reception of migrants. These cities identify themselves as "refuge cities" where migrants can live with dignity. The elected officials involved in Anvita advocate for an approach that leverages hospitality to promote inclusive and empowering policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Participation within Associations</u> <p>Numerous associations in France have established participation frameworks for TCNs, including satisfaction surveys, regular consultations, and integrating beneficiaries into volunteer teams. Organizations managing reception centers for asylum seekers (<i>Centres d'accueil pour demandeurs d'asile</i>, Cada) and temporary accommodation centers (<i>Centres provisoires d'hébergement</i>, CPH) are legally required under the 2002 law to implement participation mechanisms for users, such as Social Life Councils (<i>Conseils de la Vie Sociale</i>, CVS). These councils enable beneficiaries to have a say in the management of the centers.</p> <p>Other associations actively involve TCNs in the co-construction and management of projects, some of which are fully led by exiled individuals. Advocacy initiatives co-designed by associations like <i>La Cimade</i> and <i>Secours Catholique</i> have also emerged, often involving beneficiaries in communication campaigns and the drafting of reports.</p> <p>Additionally, some associations include migrants and refugees on their boards of directors or steering committees. In this regard, the circular dated March 26, 2024, emphasized "the pursuit in 2024 of user</p>
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		<p>involvement, meaning the participation of foreigners affected by public policies" inspired by "the model of beneficiary participation in the governance of integration policies, such as steering committees." The circular also highlighted the "need for reflection on conditions that would enable the inclusion of foreign representatives in the selection committees for territorial project proposals and in the governance structure of the AGIR program, a key initiative supporting the integration of beneficiaries of international protection."</p> <p>Associations founded by TCNs represent the highest level of participation. These organizations enable immigrants to showcase their skills and manage support projects directly. Such initiatives reflect the active engagement of TCNs, who create structures tailored to meet their needs and those of their communities.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>At the national level, TCNs play a key role in contributing to public debates, notably through initiatives such as the Academy for Refugee Participation. This platform enables them to engage in every stage of policy development, from identifying the need for new regulations and contributing to the drafting of legislative proposals to participating in discussions prior to their adoption.</p> <p>The thematic working groups of Lab'R also provide a collaborative environment for proposing solutions to challenges related to the reception and integration of refugees. The materials produced from these discussions can serve as valuable resources at various stages of the migration policy-making process.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>TCNs are selected on a voluntary basis, with individuals either applying directly or expressing their interest.</p> <p>For instance, in the case of the Academy for Refugee Participation, only individuals with refugee status are eligible. The Diarr and UNHCR issue a call for applications through an online questionnaire.</p> <p>Following this, around ten candidates (five women and five men) are selected based on their</p>
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		<p>engagement with other refugees, their motivations, projects, and proficiency in French. Neither a CV nor a cover letter is required.</p> <p>For Lab'R workshops, three Academy laureates are currently part of the steering committee, which is responsible for decision-making and setting the strategic direction. Committee members are chosen based on their expertise or influence. Participants in the working groups must also be refugees.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>YES.</p> <p>The Academy for Refugee Participation serves as an intermediary between government authorities, international organizations, NGOs, and refugees. It offers the laureates comprehensive training, both in content and form. Workshops are organized to enhance their public speaking skills, institutional knowledge, meeting preparation and facilitation, and expertise in various topics. The Academy also provides refugees with the opportunity to expand their networks, participate in events where they can share their experiences, and contribute to debates. Their testimonies can then be taken into account by the government in shaping migration policies.</p> <p>5.</p> <p>To strengthen the institutionalization of refugee participation, it is crucial to continue awareness-raising efforts among stakeholders in the fields of asylum, integration, and migration, with a particular focus on local actors. The goal is to support them in establishing concrete mechanisms for participation. According to UNHCR, the main challenge for the Academy for Refugee Participation is convincing new partners to integrate refugees meaningfully into their decision-making bodies.</p> <p>Active participation by refugees enhances the legitimacy and effectiveness of migration policies. Academy laureates contribute to the improvement of programs by sitting on various decision-making bodies and participating in conferences to promote the participatory approach. Such initiatives help</p>
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			develop the skills of refugees, expand their professional networks, and open up new opportunities for collaboration.
	EMN NCP Germany	Yes	<p>1. In general, no. However, the perspectives of third-country nationals in the area of voluntary return are incorporated into policy development through continuous exchange with IOs, NGOs and independent sponsors as well as through target group-related program evaluations. In preparation for the Consultations on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways (CRCP), Germany also regularly involves refugee representatives, who also take part in the conference. In addition, we have an annual exchange with representatives of NGOs, in which refugee representatives can also participate. With regard to labour market integration of refugees, the competent Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs works closely together on a ministerial level with (autonomous) migrant organisations and NGOs but not with TCNs individually.</p> <p>2. n/a</p> <p>3. n/a</p> <p>4. n/a</p> <p>5.</p>



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			n/a
	EMN NCP Greece	Yes	<p>1. No, not on the national/ministerial level. However, they are structurally involved/consulted in the development of migration policies on the local level, through their participation in the so-called “Migrant and Refugee Integration Councils” (MRICs), which are advisory bodies on the municipal level for the migrants and refugees’ integration in the local society. The MRICs record and identify problems that interfere with the social integration of migrants and beneficiaries of international protection residing permanently within the boundaries of a municipality. They issue recommendations and proposals for the Municipal Council, meant to promote the development of local actions facilitating migrants and refugees’ integration. For TCNs to be identified and contacted for their involvement in MRICs, they have to be members of recognized bodies for their collective representation. The recognized bodies for the collective representation of third country nationals are seen as external parties. Migrants and refugees participating in MRICs have to be members of such recognized bodies and, thus, have direct knowledge of problems, requests and proposals to be communicated to MRICs to promote local actions towards their integration.</p> <p>2. -</p> <p>3. -</p> <p>4. -</p>

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			5. -
	EMN NCP Hungary	Yes	1. No 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A 5. N/A
	EMN NCP Italy	Yes	1. Yes. In Italy, third-country nationals (TCNs) are involved in migration policies at the national level through institutional consultation mechanisms aimed at including their perspective in policy programming and interventions. In particular, there are two main areas of consultation. The first involves the government's engagement in the process of programming entry quotas for employment reasons for the 2023 – 2025 (Legislative Decree 20/2023). During this phase, the government consulted representatives of foreign communities and associations, registered with a


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		<p>special register established at the Directorate-General for Immigration and Integration Policies of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, to better understand the needs and dynamics of the labor market, consequently adjusting the annual and triennial entry quotas.</p> <p>The second area of consultation is promoted by the Directorate-General for Immigration of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies. In the process of adopting the periodic programming of thematic priorities for funding initiatives to support socio-labor integration, the DG regularly consults associations and organizations dealing with foreign nationals. This consultation aims to identify the priority needs of migrant communities and the challenges for effective integration, thus guiding the allocation of both national and European resources, including AMIF and ESF+ Funds.</p> <p>These institutional consultation processes are therefore aimed at promoting an inclusive and participatory approach, enabling third-country nationals to contribute to the development of migration policies and integration programs in a structured manner.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>Third-country nationals (TCNs), through the associations registered in the aforementioned register, are mainly involved in the consultation and programming phases of the migration policy development process at the national and ministerial level.</p> <p>In the consultation phase, communities and associations representing TCNs are consulted to provide input and perspectives on the specific needs and issues related to integration and socio-labor inclusion. This involvement aims to ensure that policies are informed by the direct experiences and needs of the migrant population.</p> <p>In the programming phase, national authorities, including the Directorate-General for Immigration and Integration Policies of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, integrate the contributions of TCNs in defining thematic priorities for the allocation of national and European funding.</p> <p>3.</p>
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			<p>The most representative associations and third sector organizations, registered in the aforementioned register, are contacted.</p> <p>4. NO</p> <p>5. The lessons learned in involving TCNs, through the associations mentioned in the above register, in the development of migration policies highlighted the importance of continuously improving consultation tools to broaden and diversify participation. One of the most effective ways that emerged is the digitization of the consultation process, which allows for more inclusive access and broader participation from TCNs, eliminating logistical and geographical barriers. Additionally, it is crucial to integrate feedback and follow-up moments during the programming period, where various stakeholders are updated on the measures taken and the results achieved. This approach reinforces trust and a sense of active involvement, as well as facilitates the adaptation of policies based on the feedback received.</p>
	EMN NCP Latvia	Yes	<p>1. No, TCNs structurally are not involved/consulted in the development of migration policies on the national/ministerial level.</p> <p>2. N/a</p> <p>3.</p>


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			N/a 4. N/a 5. N/a
	EMN NCP Lithuania	Yes	1. No 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A 5. N/A
	EMN NCP	Yes	1. No.

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	Luxembourg		<p>2. N/A.</p> <p>3. N/A.</p> <p>4. N/A.</p> <p>5. N/A.</p>
	EMN NCP Netherlands	Yes	<p>1. Yes, for some policy areas.</p> <p>-Resettlement policy. Since 2016, the Ministry for Asylum and Migration (at that time the Ministry of Justice and Security), in cooperation with the Dutch Council for Refugees (VWN), has organised that a former resettled refugee is structurally involved in the preparation of the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR; as per 2023 Consultations on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways/CRCP) and is part of the Dutch ATCR/CRCP delegation. Also, since 2020, the Ministry, the Dutch Council for Refugee (VWN) and the UNHCR-NLD work together with a core group of resettled refugees to establish and further develop a Dutch Refugee Resettlement Advisory Group (RRAG).</p> <p>-Policies for Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BoTP) from Ukraine. Since January 2023, the Ministry of Justice and Security, in cooperation with other Ministries (Ministry of Education, Culture & Science, Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment, Ministry of Health, Welfare</p>

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		<p>and Sport), works with a focus group of key persons. Some of these key persons are BoTP's themselves. These key persons fulfil key positions, through work or charity, in the group of BoTP's in the Netherlands. The Embassy of Ukraine also has a place in this group; as well as Dutch Council for Refugees (VWN). Others have roots in earlier Ukrainian diaspora in the Netherlands. They all have platforms for & with BoTP's with numbers varying between 1.000-25.000 (online platforms e.g. Telegram or physical platforms e.g. Foundation or local social hub). This focus group of key persons shares with the Ministry signals and trends amongst BoTP's. The Ministry shares policy updates with the key persons (to create understanding and to be spread amongst BoTP's through their platforms). Together with other Ministries we discuss policies with this focus group and discuss, if possible, how to improve these policies. In the meetings the focus group discusses issues on bridging the cultural gap in governmental communication on specific topics and in general, issues on healthcare, social affairs and employment, schooling, housing, nuisance in shelter facilities & causes behind it, long term policies, staying in the Netherlands, investment in human capital and returning to Ukraine. The Ministry of Justice also pays work visits throughout the Netherlands on a regular basis, to shelter facilities for BoTP's and their municipalities. During these visits we try to schedule meetings & discussions with BoTP's to hear what works well for them and what (in policy) could be improved to their opinions.</p> <p>2. With regards to resettlement: Currently there are no policy developments taking place on the national level. At this moment the RRAG is kept up to date on the implementation of resettlement policies and is introduced to the other resettlement stakeholders engaged (such as municipalities who are in charge of providing accommodation for resettled refugees). Currently, the main task of the RRAG is expanding the network of resettled refugees.</p>
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		<p>With regards to BoTP's from Ukraine: The Ministry invites the focus group of key persons on a monthly basis to enable them to share signals on (the practical results of) policies. The Ministry uses the focus group to receive input on policy developments in the early stage of proposing new policies (i.e. gathering information from the perspective of BoTP's, testing new ideas) as well as to evaluate policy implementations. During work visits to municipal shelter locations (twice a month) the Ministry invites BoTP's to share their feedback on policies in relation to their daily lives.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>With regards to resettlement: The RRAG is developed out of a Refugee focus group meeting with an active group of resettled refugees who were already in contact with VWN, UNHCR-NLD and/or the relevant Dutch implementing agencies (Immigration and Naturalisation Service [IND] and The Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers [COA]). The current RRAG members aim to enlarge their network amongst all resettled refugees in the Netherlands (be it newly arrived, or long(er) ago, including those who have obtained Dutch citizenship) in order to collect feedback about the resettlement process and advise, consult and deliberate with the implementing partners. Furthermore, the RRAG constantly looks for resettled refugees who are willing to actively contribute and would be suitable to become an active member. Suitability covers a range of things, such as Dutch language skills (preferably, but English could suffice also), being able to look beyond one's own experience and represent the resettled refugee population as a whole (as well as certain groups within that population), contributing to diversity amongst the RRAG members (men/women/background/age etc), and so on.</p> <p>With regards to BoTP's from Ukraine: - Key persons have been identified (and are still being identified) through other key persons, social media and the Ukrainian Embassy.</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Ministry contacts the key persons through email, telephone and in person. <p>4. NO</p> <p>5. With regards to resettlement: As mentioned above the RRAG is still in a start-up phase. One important lesson learnt at this point in time concerns the fact that the RRAG members invest their time besides their everyday activities and building their lives in the Netherlands (such as taking classes/vocational training, working a (fulltime) job, etc). This calls for open communication and managing of expectations with regard to what would be a realistic annual workplan and budget (working towards longer term goals and aspirations). With regards to BoTP's from Ukraine: For selection criteria and contacting TCNs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Ministry of Justice and Security started the focus group with key persons in January 2023. Looking back on this year, the Ministries and focus group concluded that this first year of working together can be considered as a greenhouse, a start-up phase. The Ministries' recent conclusions on the most important ingredients for a focus group like this are: - In order to be part of the focus group of key persons should have and work with platforms - not only have one-on-one contacts - in order to be able to see a broader range of signals and to be able to determine if signals are to be considered as N=1 or more. Platforms within the focus group should preferably be a mixture of online/physical platforms. In this focus group of key persons, the platforms vary from online channels with 25.000 followers to managing a local social hub with 1.000 visitors/members. - The focus group should reflect geographical spreading of the field of operation throughout the Netherlands.
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The key persons should have a direct link into the Ukrainian community of BoTP's; It is especially important to have BoTP's themselves on board, since they are experiencing different experiences from earlier diaspora Ukrainians. <p>Participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The importance of building up rapport and maintaining a personal work relation with the key persons. - Understanding where the people you work with are coming from (in all kinds of aspects: BoTP or earlier diaspora, trust in government or not, different professional backgrounds, their contribution to the focus group is on voluntary basis, next to their daily jobs) - Expectation management: government bodies should be clear in what way the focus group can participate and be clear on which signals/questions can be followed up positively and which signals/questions cannot be followed up. - Be aware of how group members are related to each other, how they see and react to each other. - Be aware of cultural gaps in communication, perception and perspectives between the host country and BoTP's from Ukraine. - Organise online meeting and physical meetings on a regular basis, scheduled in advance. - Good preparation and sending out questions in advance to enable the key persons to prepare with their platforms. - Use the meetings for deep discussions, not for updates (this can be done by mail).
	EMN NCP Poland	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NO 2. n/a


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			3. n/a 4. n/a 5. n/a
	EMN NCP Portugal	Yes	1. NO. 2. "N/A as per Question 1" 3. "N/A as per Question 1" 4. "N/A as per Question 1" 5. "N/A as per Question 1"
	EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	1. No. In general the strategic documents like the existing Migration Policy of the Slovak Republic are subject of interservice consultation where also general public or non-governmental or international organisations can submit their comments. However, there is no systematic involvement of foreigners in the migration policies development consultation processes.

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			2. See question 1. 3. See question 1. 4. See question 1. 5. NA
	EMN NCP Slovenia	Yes	1. No. 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A 5.

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			N/A
 EMN NCP Sweden	Yes	<div>1. Although an individual, including a TCN, in general terms always have the possibility to influence or speak up when it comes to policies at ministerial level, Sweden does not have a system in place to consult individual TCN in a structured way when developing migration policies.</div> <div>2. N/A</div> <div>3. N/A</div> <div>4. N/A</div> <div>5. N/A</div>	
