



EMN Ad-Hoc Query on Impact of the removal of the Schengen visa regime for Colombian nationals

Requested by Katharine BEANEY on 19th September 2016

Visas

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom, Norway (20 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.

Background information:

The UK is undertaking analysis relating to the current UK visa regime for Colombian nationals. To inform considerations, the UK Home Office would like to know what the effect has been of the removal, in December 2015, of the Schengen visa regime for Colombian nationals. Specifically, we would be grateful to receive any evidence concerning the impact of the removal of the visa requirement on the numbers of Colombians admitted and refused entry to your country.


The deadline for response is 12 October 2016 but responses in advance of that date would be very helpful.








Please note that this will be a ‘closed’ ad-hoc query and the information contained here and any information provided in response is not for publication.







Questions




1. If possible, please provide (in the attached workbook) the following statistical information or the nearest equivalent you have available for each of the time periods: July to December 2014; January to June 2015; July to December 2015; January to June 2016: a) Number of visas granted by your country to Colombian nationals; b) Number of visas refused by your country to Colombian nationals; c) Number of Colombian nationals admitted to your country; d) Number of Colombian nationals refused entry (at the external border) to your country. Where statistics are provided, please indicate the following: time period covered; source of the statistics; and method used to calculate the numbers provided.
2. Please provide any other evidence you have concerning impact of the removal of the Schengen visa regime on Colombian migration to your country. If statistics are provided, please indicate the following: time period covered; source of the statistics; and method used to calculate the numbers provided. If you are including additional statistics please include these in a separate worksheet in the attached workbook.



Responses

	Country	Wider Dissemination	Response
	Austria	No	

	Belgium	Yes	<p>1. Please see the BE answer in the attached document.</p> <p>2. Please see the BE answer in the attached document.</p>
	Croatia	Yes	<p>1. Please see attached table.</p> <p>2. Please see attached table.</p>
	Czech Republic	Yes	<p>1. See the file attached.</p> <p>2. As regards the removal of the Schengen visa regime for Colombian nationals, there has been no negative impact registered in the Czech Republic.</p>
	Estonia	Yes	<p>1. Please see the attached document.</p> <p>2. Currently there is no evidence concerning the impact of the removal of the Schengen visa regime on Colombian citizens' migration to Estonia. The numbers of Colombian citizens admitted to Estonia from July to December 2015 and from January to June 2016 have remained about the same.</p>
	Finland	No	
	France	No	
	Germany	Yes	<p>1. Due to an overload of work in the Federal Office of Administration no reply within the Deadline possible</p> <p>2. No findings</p>

	Hungary	Yes	<p>1. Time period: June 2014 - June 2016 Source: The statistical system of the Office of Immigration and Nationality. Method: Figures presented in the table were calculated by summing figures for the two relevant quarters in each case. You can find the statistics in the attached workbook.</p> <p>2. Nothing to add.</p>
	Italy	Yes	<p>1. See attached file</p> <p>2. Any other evidence.</p>
	Latvia	No	
	Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. Available data is attached in the table.</p> <p>2. Lithuania has only one refusal in 2015 and one in 2016 of CO nationals. Both were travelling on a train from Moscow.</p>
	Luxembourg	Yes	<p>1. See attached document.</p> <p>2. See attached document.</p>
	Netherlands	Yes	<p>1. See document attached. Note: on the EC website are more statistics regarding visa available from Colombia, see http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/borders-and-visas/visa-policy/index_en.htm. For the Netherlands, you can find a small inconsistency between the numbers available in the link above, and the numbers we've provided. This is due to the amount of visas granted and refused at the embassy in Bogota alone and the total amount of visas granted and refused from all Colombian nationals, regardless of the place.</p>

			<p>2. N/A. At the moment, we do not have any statistics or data available to providing any evidence regarding the impact of removal on the Netherlands.</p>
	Portugal	Yes	<p>1. Supporting document.</p> <p>2. Supporting document.</p>
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>1. Please, see the attached document.</p> <p>2. Please, see the attached document.</p>
	Slovenia	Yes	<p>1. a) b) c) none d) We had only two cases of refusal of entry in 2015. We had none in 2014 and 2016 by now.</p> <p>2. Jul/Dec 2014 Jan/Jun 2015 Jul/Dec 2015 Jan/June 2016 a) Number of visa applications - granted 5 6 7 1 b) Number of visa applications - refused 1 1 0 0</p> <p>3. No impact has been noted.</p> <p>4. This data complements our previous report</p>
	Sweden	Yes	<p>1. a) Please see the attached workbook b) Please see the attached workbook c) Sweden has no reliable figures regarding the number of persons admitted to the country. Third-country nationals may enter Sweden via another Schengen Member State, and in such cases, there is normally no border control and no registration. d) According to Eurostat, the number of Colombian citizens who were refused at Sweden's external borders in 2015 was 0. Overall, the number of persons who are refused entry directly at an external border is very small in Sweden, which is partly due to the fact that Sweden is surrounded by countries that are Members of the Schengen area.</p>

			<p>2. The number of Colombian citizens applying for asylum in Sweden has increased in Sweden in 2016, compared to 2016 (from 21 in 2015 to 79 so far this year). It is not certain, however, whether the introduction of visa-free travel has contributed to this development.</p>
	United Kingdom	No	
	Norway	Yes	<p>1. See attached file.</p> <p>2. N/A</p>