



# Requested by EMN NCP Poland on 21 October 2020

# Responses from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden (22 in Total)

# <u>Disclaimer:</u>

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# 1. Background information

The EMN Study entitled Attracting and retaining international students in the EU included information on Attracting and retaining international students up to December 2018. EMN Poland will like to update some of the questions included in the study for policy reasons.

# 2. Questions

1. Does your MS has introduced since January 2019, mechanisms in order to avoid misuse of the student status to enter the EU but their final goal is to obtain employment? YES/No. If your answer is Yes please explain. If it is no, please indicate if the measures remain the same as reported in the Study.

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# 2. Does your MS begin an automatically withdrawal procedure if it is determined that the student is misusing the status?

Available choices: Yes, No, Not Applicable

3. If you answered YES to question 2, does you provide the individual a period for leaving the MS voluntarily? Yes/No. Please explain.

4. Can you please provide the number of international students during 2019 with top three foreign countries?

We would very much appreciate your responses by **2 December 2020**.

# 3. Responses

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		Wider Dissemination <sup>2</sup>	
=	EMN NCP Austria	Yes	<ol> <li>Such measures are not known. In general, international students are allowed to pursue an employment in Austria, but according to Art. 64 para 3 Settlement and Residence Act, studies must remain the main purpose of residence. It is therefore not possible to suspend studies for work in Austria, as this would be contrary to the purpose of residence. Violation of the legal restrictions can result in severe penalties and a ban on residence.</li> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ol>

<sup>&</sup>lt;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."

			A Temporary Residence Permit for students can be withdrawn in Austria, also possible in the sense that the authorities may refuse to renew the permit, if the individual concerned no longer meets the requirements for granting such a permit (for example, if the student is no longer enrolled in university and therefore does not study any more) or if the student fails to demonstrate progress in the relevant studies (Bassermann, 'Attracting and retaining international students in Austria', p. 56, https://www.emn.at/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/emn-national-report-2018_attracting-international- students.pdf). In addition, according to Art. 28 para 5 Settlement and Residence Act, residence permits must be withdrawn if the special conditions for granting them no longer exist. 3. In Austria, when a return decision is issued, a deadline for voluntary departure must also be set. The deadline for voluntary departure is usually 14 days after the decision becomes legally binding (Art. 55 Aliens Police Act). 4. International Students (non-EU and non-EFTA states) at Austrian Universities, total and top-3 country of origin (winter semester 2019/20) Country of Origin International students TOTAL 11.990 Top-1: Republic of Bosnia and 1.759 Herzegovina Top-2: Serbia 968 Top-3: Russian Federation 953 Source: Statistics Austria
п	EMN NCP Belgium	Yes	1. No, the measures in place, mostly to detect the use of fake or fraudulent documents, remain the same as reported in the Study.

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Extra information: The federal Immigration Office informs the visa officers at the Belgian diplomatic posts about the applicable procedure and conditions so they can filter out any cases of abuse. In this regard, the Immigration Office instructed Campus Belgique in Cameroon to pre-screen all applicants for student visas to verify whether they actually have the necessary capacities to study in Belgium. Campus Belgique is then asked to write an advice/opinion on each applicant. This system was put into place after a noticeable increase of Cameroonian students who applied for student visa and used fake documents. Furthermore, there is a APS screening for Chinese students. Students with a Chinese diploma need to obtain the APS certificate, when applying at a Flemish higher education institution. An APS certificate is a condition for obtaining a student visa at the Belgian Embassy or Consulates General in PR China. The APS screening is meant to avoid document fraud and to guarantee a sufficient language knowledge. 2 Yes 3. There is a transversal article: art. 74/20 of the Aliens Act 15 December 1980 which can be used for a withdrawal due to fraud. Art. 74/20. § 2. Except for the special provisions in the law, the minister or his representative may revoke the authorisation or admission to stay, granted or recognised under this law, if the applicant, for the purpose of obtaining this authorisation or for the recognition of this admission, has provided false or misleading information or has used false or falsified documents, or committed fraud or used any other unlawful means that contributed to obtaining the residence. When the minister or his representative is considering taking such a decision, he will take into account the nature and closeness of the family relationship of the person concerned, the duration of his stay in the Kingdom (of Belgium) as well as the existence of family ties or cultural or social ties with his country of origin. § 3. The minister or his representative gives the foreign national whose residence has been refused or withdrawn in accordance with paragraph 1 or paragraph 2 the order to leave the territory. § 4. The minister or his representative may at any time carry out specific checks or have them carried out if there are well-founded suspicions of fraud or the use of other illegal means. The order to leave the territory provides for a period of thirty days to leave the territory.

			<ul> <li>4.</li> <li>In 2019, the top 3 of nationalities of applicants requesting to study in Belgium was: 1) Cameroon, 2) China and 3) Morocco (source: Immigration Office).</li> <li>In 2019, 10,248 long-stay visas were issued for study reasons, representing 31% of the total number of long-stay visas issued.</li> <li>Main beneficiaries of long-stay visas for study reasons in 2019 were: 1) China, 2) Cameroon, 3) United States of Amerca, 4) India, 5) Morocco.</li> <li>NationalityNumber of visa grantedShare refused visas</li> <li>China 1265 0,60%</li> <li>Cameroon 810 62%</li> <li>USA 590 1,20%</li> <li>India 564 10%</li> <li>Morocco 555 38%</li> <li>(source: Myria, the Federal Migration Centre)</li> </ul>
	EMN NCP Bulgaria	Yes	<ol> <li>No. The measures are the same.</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>Yes, between 7 and 30 days.</li> <li>- United Kingdom -1149</li> <li>Turkey- 741</li> <li>North Macedonia- 330</li> </ol>
Η	EMN NCP Croatia	Yes	1. No.

		<ul> <li>2. Yes</li> <li>3. Yes. The procedure for withdrawal of resident status will be initiated if it is determined that the third country national is misusing the status. Third country national would be issued, together with decision on withdrawal of residence status, a removal decision, usually involving certain period for voluntary departure.</li> <li>4. The number of international students attending study programmes in Croatia is app. 900 (degree-mobility). Data available for international students (non-EU countries) at the national level show that their numbers are dispersed to numerous countries, but certain prevalence is seen for students from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Turkey.</li> </ul>
EMN NCP Cyprus	Yes	<ol> <li>As of September 2020, the following measures have been imposed in order to avoid misuse of the student status         <ul> <li>Restricting the number of admission of foreign students to colleges, up to 120% of the authorised capacity of each college. The Ministry of Interior will examine applications 2 times a year without differentiating the authorised capacity. If, for example, a college can enrol 200 students on the basis of the capacity approved by the Ministry of Education, it will be able to enrol 100 in the autumn and another 100 in the spring semester.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Stepping up checks on students' academic qualifications with regard to the minimum knowledge of English, by conducting interviews with students who do not hold international certificates of knowledge of English, with a view to ascertaining whether they are able to complete their curriculum successfully;         <ul> <li>Request a bank certificate for the possibility of reimbursing the amount of tuition fees for the student's first year of study in Cyprus. The provision of a previous Ministerial Decision that each student must transfer part of the amount of the tuition fees of EUR 3000 to the College's account before issuing the entry permit is also applicable.</li> <li>Strengthening audits of higher education schools carried out by the Ministry of Education,</li> </ul> </li></ol>

#### Disclaimer:

			<ul> <li>A student's work permit is granted only for work as part of a traineeship which forms part of their curriculum or for work related to their field of study</li> <li>No</li> <li>N/A</li> <li>At 31.12.2019, the TCNs with a valid residence permit in the area of education were 6725. Top three nationalities: India, Nepal, Bangladesh.</li> </ul>
	EMN NCP Czech Republic	Yes	<ol> <li>Yes. The Czech Republic increased quotas of applications for Employment Cards in the last years which eliminated misuse of application for residence permits for other purposes. Furthermore, there is a strict systems of checks of lodged applications in place.</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>Number of international students in the Czech Republic in 2019 Slovak Republic 21 105 Russia 6 221 Ukraine 3 622 Kazakhstan 1 970</li> </ol>
-	EMN NCP Estonia	Yes	1. No. The measures have remained the same. 2. No

		<ul> <li>The temporary residence permit for study shall be annulled if an alien has failed to complete the curriculum or has terminated his or her studies. The government has introduced a draft legislation which would automate this process. If a student drops out or is ejected from their studies by the higher education institution, their residence permit issued on the basis of being a student expires within 30 days. The draft legislation is being currently debated on in Parliament.</li> <li>3. N/a.</li> <li>4. Number of international students during the academic year 2019/2020 was 5528 students.</li> <li>Top three countries in 2019: <ol> <li>Finland - 1261</li> <li>Russia - 432</li> <li>Nigeria - 347</li> </ol> </li> <li>Top three TCN countries: Russia, Nigeria, Ukraine (279).</li> </ul>
EMN NCP France	Yes	<ol> <li>In order to verify that an international student does not misuse the student status, French authorities verify during the residence permit renewal application procedure the real and serious nature of studies. These measure were implemented before 2019 and are presented in the EMN 2018 study on international students.</li> <li>As a reminder, two cumulative criteria may be taken into account by the administration to assess the real and serious nature of the studies followed by the foreign national:         <ul> <li>attendance in the study course and exams;</li> <li>the control of reasonable progress in the chosen university course.</li> </ul> </li> <li>With a "student" residence permit, a foreign national is authorised to exercise a salaried activity as a secondary occupation to have additional financial resources, without requiring a work authorisation, up to 60% of the annual working duration (1,607 hours), i.e. 964 hours per year (article L. 313-7 of the CESEDA). If the maximum duration of work is not respected, the residence permit can be withdrawn.</li> </ol>

			Algeria	dless of the e, and if the an obligation to temporary 12 500 9 998 5 687
-	EMN NCP Germany	Yes	1. No. The mechanism described in the study (establishment of academic test centres) is	still in place.

			<ol> <li>No         The competent foreigners authority examines on a case-by-case basis whether there are grounds for revocation, withdrawal or for the imposition of a subsequent time limit on the residence permit issued for study purposes.     </li> <li>Yes. An obligation to depart the Federal Republic is usually accompanied by a period of voluntary departure and a threat of deportation in the event of failure to meet this deadline.     <li>In 2019, around 146,000 residence permits were issued for stays for the various training purposes (including vocational training and subsequent job search), with the three strongest countries of origin being China accounting for around 18%, India for around 10% and the USA for around 4%. Of these, around 115,000 residence permits were issued specifically for the purposes of studying and study preparation.</li> <li>(Source: https://www.bamf.de/SharedDocs/Anlagen/DE/Forschung/BerichtsreihenMigrat, page 15 et seq.)</li> </li></ol>
IM	EMN NCP Greece	Yes	<ol> <li>NO- The measures remain the same</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>NO- The visa is automatically annulled.</li> <li>NO</li> </ol>
=	EMN NCP Hungary	Yes	1. No 2. Yes 3. Yes

		For such third-country-nationals, the general provision for voluntary departure apply: the deadline falls between the seventh and the thirtieth day following the time of delivery of the resolution for expulsion to the third-country national, if the third-country national affected agrees to leave the territory of the Member States of the European Union on his/her own accord. The time period provided for above shall not exclude the possibility for the third-country national concerned to leave earlier. 4. Official data is not yet available. Based on preliminary data, there were 38 422 non-Hungarian students (including EEA and third-country nationals as well) in Hungary.
EMN NCP Ireland	Yes	<ol> <li>No, not since January 2019. Measures remain the same as reported in the Study.</li> <li>Not Applicable         <ul> <li>A student who is found not to be in compliance with the conditions of the student immigration permission will not have that permission renewed.</li> <li>All irregular migrants are subject to the provisions on return specified in the Immigration Act 1999. Voluntary return is possible up to the point of issuing a deporation order.</li> <li>According to published Eurostat figures, the number of first residence permissions granted for education reasons in 2019 was 34,735. Of these 16,918 were granted for Education reasons: study.</li> <li>The total number of valid residence permissions for education reasons at 31 December 2019 was 50,946.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

	EMN NCP Italy	Yes	<ol> <li>No.         It may be useful to highlight that residence permit issued for study reasons:         <ul> <li>allow students to work only for 20 hours/weeks (1.040 hours/years);</li> <li>may be converted in a work residence permit, but only within the limits established by the Flow Decree, which, every year, fixes quotas of third-country citizens who can access the national territory for working purposes. In particular, the Flow Decree of 2020 provides 12.850 entries for paid and self-employment, among which <u>1.500</u> reserved to international students who want to convert their residence permit for study into a working one (art. 4 para. 3 lett. b) of Prime Minister Decree of 7 July 2020).         </li> <li>No</li> <li>N/A</li> <li>On the website of the Ministry of Education, University and Research there is a database about registration of foreign students: the trend is constantly up since the academic year 2010/2013: in particular 15.875 foreign students enrolled in the 2019/2020. Source: <a href="http://dati.ustat.miur.it/dataset/immatricolati/resource/e5dbae47-4a51-410b-8540-a37ed7bedd12">http://dati.ustat.miur.it/dataset/immatricolati/resource/e5dbae47-4a51-410b-8540-a37ed7bedd12</a> The top three foreign countries of origin are:         <ul> <li>China: 1.072</li> <li>Morocc: 833</li> <li>Moldavia: 469 (followed by India with 427 enrolled foreign students).</li> <li>Source: <a href="http://dati.ustat.miur.it/dataset/immatricolati/resource/735ca216-f969-4e49-b18c-47bBa404fdaf">http://dati.ustat.miur.it/dataset/immatricolati/resource/735ca216-f969-4e49-b18c-47bBa404fdaf</a></li> </ul></li></ul></li></ol>
=	EMN NCP Latvia	Yes	1. There are no explicit legal norms stating this goal but there are several conditions included in the national legislation that oblige students to have sufficient progress in studies in order to keep their

		<ul> <li>residence permits valid. Besides, the Immigration Law is being changed at the moment, obliging educational establishments inform state institutions (Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs and State Border Guard) if a student does not attend lectures longer than 14 consecutive days without a reason.</li> <li>2. No</li> <li>There is no possibility to withdraw permit automatically. A student and in some cases the educational establishment is consulted in order to get their explanation and opinion.</li> <li>3. At any case when a permit is revoked, there is certain period up to 45 days given for leaving Latvia voluntarily.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>First time permits issued in 2019: India – 1119</li> <li>Uzbekistan – 537</li> <li>Pakistan - 202</li> </ul>
EMN NCP Lithuania	Yes	1. Yes. Amendments to the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Legal Status of Foreigners entered into force on 1 September 2019, which provide that a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Lithuania may be refused to issue or renew and the issued permit may be revoked if a foreigner, admitted to a higher education institution on the basis of a study programme (programmes), has obtained less than 40 study credits during the last year of studies and no valid reasons are identified. In order to ensure that the decision is taken in the light of all relevant circumstances, the Law provides that such a decision may be taken by the Migration Department only after consultation institution is obliged to provide information to the Migration Department, within 10 working days of the request from the Migration Department, about the justified reasons for the alien having obtained less than 40 study credits and other relevant information related to the foreigner's studies.

#### Disclaimer:

		<ul> <li>2. Yes</li> <li>3. Yes. The period during which the foreigner is required to leave may be between 7 and 30 days.</li> <li>4. In total, 2 611 temporary residence permits were issued in 2019 for the purpose of studies. Top 3 countries: India (604), Belarus (289), Ukraine (249).</li> </ul>
EMN NCP Luxembourg	Yes	<ol> <li>No.</li> <li>As it was mentioned above, the higher education institution is obliged to notify the Directorate of Immigration if an international student does not attend his/her lectures for a certain period of time. The Directorate of Immigration will request the Grand Ducal police to conduct a verification at the residence of the student in order to find out if the student is still residing at this address and if the student remains in this residence why s/he has not followed her/his courses. The police will report its findings to the Directorate of Immigration, that may decide to revoke the residence permit in accordance with article 101 (1) 1 of the amended law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration (Immigration Law).</li> <li>It is important to mention that article 57 (3) 1 of the Immigration Law states that the international student can only work a maximum of 15 hours per week so the holder of the residence permit cannot work full time. Also, there is no possibility during the duration of the studies to do a change of status.</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>Yes. Once that the residence permit has been revoked and a return decision has been issued, and except in duly motivated emergencies, the TCN has a period of 30 days from the notification of the return decision to voluntarily comply with the obligation to leave the territory and may request a return assistance scheme for this purpose. If necessary, in view of the TCN's personal situation, the Minister in</li> </ol>

			charge of Immigration and Asylum may exceptionally grant a period of more than 30 days for voluntary departure (article 111 (2) of the Immigration Law). 4. For the year 2019, Luxembourg issued 419 student residence permits (first issuance). The first three nationalities of TCNs were: China (43), India (40) and USA (26).
=	EMN NCP Netherlands	Yes	<ol> <li>No, the Netherlands did not introduce new mechanisms since 2019 in order to avoid misuse of the student status. The following measures were already existing:         <ul> <li>Since 1 June 2013, the recognised sponsorship has been applicable. A recognised sponsor is an educational institution that is interested in the entry of a third-country national. The sponsor procedure entails that when the student files a request for admission and enrolment on the educational institution of their choice, the educational institution acting as recognised sponsor checks whether the student meets the requirements. The recognized sponsor can decide not to submit the application to the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) in the first place.</li> <li>When the student is already in the Netherlands and circumstances change or there is a case of distrusts, the recognized sponsor can notify the IND. The recognized sponsor is obliged to notify the Immigration authorities of relevant changes that influence the stay of the student. This applies for instance when the student does not progress sufficiently, no longer studies full-time at the educational institution, does not or no longer attends the institution, or has terminated their studies. Therefore there is also supervision during the stay.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Inspectorate of Social Affairs and Employment receives information of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Employee Insurance Agency for her risk analyses on the basis of which she investigates whether employers are complying with the law regarding the employment of foreign students. The Inspectorate may also receive notifications/signals from about specific cases of suspected violation of the law by employers of foreign students, for</li> </ol>

		<ul> <li>example by letting students work more hours then allowed or letting them work without a work permit.</li> <li>2. Yes</li> <li>If it is noted that the student received the residence permit on improper grounds, then this is reason to withdraw the residence permit. The student will first receive an intended decision, to which the student can provide a response, before the withdrawal takes place.</li> <li>3. Yes, a third-country national of whom the residence permit has been withdrawn has 4 weeks to leave the Netherlands.</li> <li>4. In 2019 there were in total 20.430 applications to study in the Netherlands by third-country nationals.[1] The percentage of granting this residence permit in 2019 laid on 99%. The top 3 countries of nationality were China, the US and India.</li> <li>[1] Bron: Rapportage Vreemdelingenketen 2019</li> </ul>
EMN NCP Poland	Yes	<ol> <li>YES, One of such mechanism is the following regulation. According to the amendment to the Act on foreigners a non-university-type non-public higher education institutions are subject to the obligation of approval by the Minister of the Interior and Administration for the purposes of admitting foreigners taking up or continuing studies. Approval the higher education institutions is a condition for issuing a national visa for the foreigner as well as a temporary residence permit for the purpose of studying</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>The period for leaving Poland is 30 days after the decision on withdrawal of the residence permit has become enforceable.</li> </ol>

		In Cases, when there are such premises as: - probability of the foreigner's escape, or - if it is required for reasons of national defense or security or protection security and public order then the decision is issued without specifying the date of voluntary return. The decision on return obligation, which does not specify a period for voluntary return or the foreigner fails to execute the decision on obliging to return on time appointed to him, is subject to compulsory execution by the Border Guard authorities. 4. The number of international students in the academic year 2019/2020: 82682. Top three foreign countries in the academic year 2019/2020: Ukraine – 40707, Belarus – 8596, India – 3655.
EMN NCP Portugal	Yes	<ol> <li>No. The mechanisms for preventing abuse are those used for other regimes, and there is no evidence of abuse that express the need for a specific regime.</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>The abuse of the regime, when detected, obeys the procedures related to the cancellation of residence permits.</li> <li>After the decision of cancelling the residence permit, citizens are notified of the voluntary abandonment of national territory.</li> <li>2018-2019: Brasil: 20627 Angola:4036 Cabo Verde:3616 2019-2020: Brasil: 22961</li> </ol>

#### Disclaimer:

		Cabo Verde: 4973 Angola: 4305
EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	<ol> <li>The above mentioned study did not refer to any measures to avoid the misuse of the student status. If the student does not attend the school or does not even start to attend despite the fact that the s/he was accepted, s/he as well as the school are obliged to inform the respective Police department.</li> <li>In case of the situation described above, the Police department cancels the temporary residence permit. The student is informed about starting of the cancellation procedure of the residence permit. Prior to the issuance of the decision, the third country national (student) can reflect on all the documents serving as a basis to the issuance of the decision as well as the ways how it was find out about it and s/he can also request its update. If a TCN wants to carry out different activity from the one for which s/he was issued the residence permit, s/he firstly has to change the purpose of his/her stay. The purpose of their stay can be changed only while the temporary residence permit is still valid.</li> <li>In case the Police department cancels the residence permit, she has to leave the country within 30 days.</li> <li>Not Applicable</li> <li>N/A (please see 1)</li> <li>Type of HEI Number of international students[1] Public university 5 739 Private unversity 330 State university 37 Total 6 106</li> </ol>

			TOP three countries with the highest number of international students studying in Slovakia: Ukraine, Serbia, Russia TOP three countries with the number of governmental scholarships: Serbia, Ukraine, Kenya. [1] Number of students includes only students from third countries without a permanent residence studying internal form of study, it does not include external form of study, students studying through student mobility or PhD students. The data is extracted from 31 October 2019. Source: Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information and calculation of the SK EMN NCP.
8	EMN NCP Spain	Yes	<ol> <li>No.</li> <li>No</li> <li>No Instead of establishing the possibility of withdrawing the residence permit, our legislation refers to it as a requirement for its renewal. In particular article 40 of the Royal Decree 557/2011 states that in order to renew the residence permit, the student must provide evidence that they have passed the exams or that they have complied with the conditions required to continue their studies.</li> <li>A. On 31 December 2019 there were 59.275 international students in Spain. The top three countries of origin of these students are China (8.068), USA (6.754) and Colombia (4.983)</li> </ol>
	EMN NCP Sweden	Yes	1. No 2. No 3.

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	4. In 2019 15669 International students were granted first time residence permit to Sweden. The top three countries were; India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.
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