

Webinar#1

“(EU Member) States responses to managing residence permits and migrant unemployment during the COVID-19 pandemic”

European Migration Network (EMN) – Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

30 July 2020, 10.30 – 11.45 (CEST)

I. Context and aims

The outbreak of COVID-19 and the substantial measures taken by EU Member States and Norway to stem the spread of the virus are having direct and indirect impacts on the migration field. While the long-term consequences are difficult to predict, the immediate impacts are already visible. This is particularly the case in the legal migration field, where the processing of applications for visas and residence permits has in many cases been hindered or suspended with consequences for those migrants already in the EU. In addition, the abrupt downturn in economic activity has had a significant impact across many sectors, with citizens and third-country nationals facing unemployment or reduced income. For migrants, however, this can have an impact on the renewal and/or validity of their work and residence permits.

From the beginning of the outbreak, the EMN and the OECD have independently been monitoring how the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting migration in the EU and beyond, in order to provide information useful to governments and policy makers at all levels. EMN and OECD are now collaborating with DG HOME to address this most urgent agenda in the short and medium terms. Such a collaboration aims to generate synergies and avoid duplication of effort to address this issue. The result of the collaboration is **a series of four Informs** on measures taken at national and EU level in response to COVID-19 and their impacts on migration to address the negative consequences of the pandemic. EMN and OECD will host a webinar to present the key findings of each Inform.

II. Overview of the event

This webinar will serve to launch the first EMN-OECD Inform on the impact of COVID-19 in the migration area. The focus of this Inform is on “(EU Member) States responses to managing residence permits and migrant unemployment during the COVID-19 pandemic”. The event also seeks to provide the latest information on Member States' responses to the COVID-19 pandemic to date as regards the legal migration and unemployment area.

The launch webinar will open with a welcome note from Mr Magnus Ovilius, Chair of the EMN. This is followed by a scene-setting presentation from Mr. Aujean providing an overview of the overall policy approach of the European Commission in regard to COVID-19 and

migrants' employment. The presentation from Mr Adolfo Sommarribas will put the emphasis on the main findings from the EMN-OECD Inform while in the last session Mr Jean-Christophe Dumont will present the main trends in the OECD countries.

Agenda	
10.30 – 10.35	<p>Welcome remarks</p> <p>Magnus Ovilius, Head of Agencies and Networks Coordination Sector and Chair of the EMN, DG HOME, European Commission</p>
10.35 – 10.50	<p>Migrants' employment during the COVID pandemic</p> <p>Laurent Aujean, Policy Officer, DG HOME, European Commission</p>
10.50 – 11.05	<p>EMN OECD Inform "(EU Member) States responses to managing residence permits and migrant unemployment during the COVID-19 pandemic": presentation of main key findings</p> <p>Adolfo Sommarribas, Legal advisor, EMN Luxembourg</p>
11.05 – 11.20	<p>Presentation of main trends in the OECD countries</p> <p>Jean-Christophe Dumont, Head of the International Migration Division in the Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD</p>
11.20 – 11.35	<p>Q&A session</p>
11.35 – 11.45	<p>Closing remarks</p> <p>Magnus Ovilius, Head of Agencies and Networks Coordination Sector and Chair of the EMN, DG HOME, European Commission</p>

Moderator: Rafael Bärlund, EMN Finland and EMN Communication and Dissemination Working Group co-chair