

How the UN recommendations and the forthcoming EU regulation on international migration statistics are fulfilled in the 25 EU countries ?

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ABSTRACT

Relative to other demographic phenomena, like births and deaths, migration is assuming increasing importance in measurements of population change. Unlike other demographic phenomena, however, migration flows pose particular challenges to the production and measurement of reliable and widely comparable statistics.

Reasons for these challenges can be found both in the characteristics of migration itself and in current strategies for collecting and interpreting migration data. Migration flows, for example, fluctuate rapidly while many demographic patterns change only slowly. International migration is also the only demographic statistic

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that is currently produced simultaneously by two different national statistical institutes – one in the country of departure and one in the country of arrival. Despite the difficulties, reliable international migration data are urgently needed in the areas of population projections and policies.

UN recommendations on international migration statistics provide a useful target for improving the collection, reliability and comparability of such statistics in Europe. This contribution will explore the current state of EU25 international migration statistics and the prospects for greater coordination in the line of the UN recommendations.

In order to fulfill this objective of harmonization of international migration statistical data along the UN recommendations, the EU forthcoming EU regulation will enforce all member states to produce reliable and harmonized statistics on international migrations also including asylum, residence permits, illegal migration and acquisition of citizenship. This will be a real opportunity to improve the data collection system in Europe and in this aim a parallel policy-oriented research project THESIM (*Towards Harmonized European Statistics on International Migration*) has been launched in April 2004. As a result a fully comprehensive view of the situation of international migration statistics in Europe is now available and a scientific publication will appear later in 2005²

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1. Factors in the current unreliability of migration statistics

International migration is increasingly seen as an important factor of demographic and economic growth in a number of countries. Comprehensive and reliable statistics on international migration are therefore required to prepare population estimates and projections, which are essential for the development of public policy and planning. An urgent need for international migration statistics coincides with an unsatisfactory availability and quality of data, in particular on international migration flows. Current administrative and statistical practices hinder international comparability of international migration data and related problems occur at different stages of producing migration statistics. Firstly, different data sources are used to collect statistical information. Except for specific migration surveys, data sources are not generally put in place with the ultimate aim of counting migrants. Usually, statistics on international migration flows are by-products of information collected for administrative purposes and as such their coverage and possible tabulation is limited by the scope of the information gathered by the national data collection systems. Second, the registration of migration events and recorded characteristics depend on national migration policy and

² Check with GéDAP website for more information on this publication (www.gedap.ucl.ac.be)

besides, the definition of international migrant and migration used by the registration system is of great importance. Discrepancies in basic concept of migrant and migration event are among the main forces that make flow statistics internationally incomparable. For example, the duration of living in country or abroad required for registration of event may differ by countries. Also, the sub-populations (for example, asylum seekers, students, seasonal workers etc) covered by the definition of migrant may differ by countries. Even EU citizens are often not included in migration statistics in Europe. In many countries asylum seekers are not registered as migrants at the time of arrival and not counted in usual migration statistics while other take them into account (for example in Austria, Spain, Netherlands and Germany). In the former cases, as long as asylum seekers are not recognized as refugees, they are seen as temporary migrants waiting for a long-term stay permit and as such they are not included in migration statistics. Unless all sub-populations are identified, it is not certain that the data covers entirely the populations in question.

From another side incentives and disincentives prompt compliance with recording rules. As an example, it is nowadays easy for EU citizens to live in another EU country without asking for a residence permit (or without registration of his residence). Accordingly the reliability of migration statistics concerning EU citizens is certainly lower than for non-EU citizens. Intra-European migrations are often no longer considered as relevant from the viewpoint of policy by administrations in charge of migration management which focus their efforts on *extra-communautaire* migrants, asylum seekers, illegal migration etc. As a result, migration statistics are sometimes no longer compiled for EU citizens. Thus, the reliability of migration data is sometimes so poor that, even when countries define migration in the same terms, the resulting figures may differ widely.

Finally, it is not easy to estimate illegal migrations and furthermore it is not possible to include the measurement of illegal migration in administrative data collection as this aims usually measuring only legal immigration.

These example makes clear that among the challenges of improving the comparability of international migration statistics, harmonising the concepts and definitions of migration are no less important than resolving the problems of poor reliability of data collection systems. In sum, the development of comparable migration systems requires both the implementation of reliable data collection systems and the coordination of ideas about and definitions of migration.

Harmonisation of these statistics, even within the European Union, seems beyond achievement, despite continuous efforts promoted by international bodies since at least 1924 and lastly updated in the 1997 UN recommendations³. In order to fulfill this

³ Different sets of international recommendations on this topic were proposed first by the ILO (in 1924) and subsequently, after the WW II, by the UN. In the 1970s and 1980s, the UNECE initiated an in-depth data collection and analysis of the so-called “double matrix”. At the beginning of the 1990s, the UNECE,

objective of harmonization of international migration statistical data along the UN recommendations, the EU will adopt an EU regulation that will enforce all member states to produce reliable and harmonized statistics on international migrations also including asylum, residence permits, illegal migration and acquisition of citizenship. The aim of this paper is to review the extend of the compliance of available data on international migration flows to the UN recommendations and the forthcoming EU Regulation and to analyse how EU countries may produce data in accordance to the need of European policymakers and migration researchers.

2. The UN Recommendations and the forthcoming EU regulation as realistic goals

While there is a growing consciousness of the impact of diverse national definitions, the UN criteria have not been formally adopted anywhere. The Nordic countries, which come the closest in this regard, have systems for exchanging migration information, and provide an excellent example of creating reliable international migration data. Nordic experience demonstrates that, bilateral and multilateral collaboration can produce reliable and comparable data even if the high level of comparability does not necessary mean a high level of reliability since a similar under-registration may exist in both involved Nordic countries.

Until recently, national interests have taken precedence over the need for internationally comparable statistics. Harmonisation at international level, however, will occur only with the focused political energy that can lead to a substantial improvement in the estimation of migration flows. The first and common goal of collaboration at international level must be standardisation of the fundamental concepts and criteria, the collection methods, and the variables to be collected. The 1998 UN recommendations present methodological manual for this.

The ultimate objective of countries should not be to record a maximum number of migrants but rather to measure migration in a way that is as near as possible to the UN definition.

The UN Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration (UN 1998) propose the following definitions for the long-term and short-term migrants and the country of usual residence:

Eurostat and later the ILO, OECD and the Council of Europe joined their efforts to revise the 1976 UN recommendations on international migration and to develop a joint data collection on that topic.

- A long term migrant is defined as a person who move to a country other than this of his or her usual residence for a period of at least a year (12 months), so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence.
- A short-term migrant is a person who moves to a country other than this of his or her usual residence for a period of at least three months but less than a year (12 months) except in cases where the movement to that country is for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage. For purpose of international migration statistics, the country of usual residence of short-term migrants is considered to be the country of destination during the period they spend in it.
- The country of usual residence is the country in which a person lives, that is to say, the country in which he or she has a place to live where he or she normally spends the daily period of rest. Temporary travel abroad for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage does not change a person's country of usual residence.

The forthcoming EU regulation on international migration statistics proposes the following definition :

(c) "Usual residence" shall refer to the place in which a person normally spends the daily period of rest;

(d) "Migration" shall refer to the action by which a natural person establishes their usual residence for a period that is, or is expected to be, of at least twelve months in the territory of a Member State or third country other than that in which they had been previously usually resident;

(e) "Migrant" shall refer to a natural person undertaking a migration;

When comparing carefully these two sets of definitions one may observe that the definition of the international migrant proposed in the EU regulation⁴ is similar to the definition of the long-term migrant recommended by the UN recommendations. Both are defining an international migrant as somebody who changes his or her country of usual residence for a period of at least 12 months and the country of usual residence as the country where he or she spend normally the daily period of rest. However there is a clear difference as the EU regulation totally ignore the concept of short-term migrant and only consider the long-term migrant renamed as (international) migrant. In fact according the UN recommendations on censuses the short-term migrants will still be counted as part of the usual resident population figure in the country of departure (being temporary absent for less than 12 months) while they will be part of the short-term immigration flows in the country of destination. That implies that short-term

⁴ Please note that the EU regulation defines the migration and thereafter the migrant. Moreover, the text does not define the international migration but only the migration in general terms.

migration flows have to be disregarded when linking flows and stock figures and only long-term migrants should be considered in this respect. As a conclusion, short-term migrants have definitively to be considered as a different category of migrants and it seems better to consider these persons as seasonal workers as they are travelling in relation with the labour market or as students while tourists have to be considered as other international travellers that are not included among the short-term migrants. Both groups of migrants have to be counted separately for usual resident population and international migration statistics and a clear distinction should be done between the two data collection in order to avoid any risk of misunderstanding when linking population stocks and migration flows. Therefore the choice to consider only long-term migrants in the migration data collection requested by the EU regulation is appropriate and will avoid a clear risk of error.

In order to ensure that the definition of international migrant was in accordance with the definition of usual resident population and international tourist, long-term migrant is defined by the length of stay equal or more than twelve months. This choice is often opposed to a three months time limit and there are cons and pros for both choices.

- A time limit of one year or twelve months allows a better fit with the annual production of statistics on flows and stocks.
- The three months limit will lower the reliability of the self-declaration of the migration flows and the coverage of the enumeration of these migrants in the stock figures and short-term migration are more often under- declared.
- The three months limit increases the number of migrants compared to the one year limit and this may be considered as an advantage or a disadvantage.
- At the opposite the three months limit is more appropriate alongside the administrative procedure related to the issue of visas and residence permits as usually all stay above three months is linked to the appropriate authorisation to stay in the country.

The twelve months criterion as an unique time limit for identifying international migrants proposed in the EU regulation appears to be the most appropriate and simple choice.

In the EU regulation, the definition of (international) migrant is based on a period *that is, or is expected to be, of at least twelve months*. This definition gives the possibility to use an ex post duration of twelve months or an intended duration of twelve months. In the UN Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, the definition of a long-term migration implicitly refers to a minimum period of at least 12 months after migration and this is therefore an estimated duration of stay in the receiving country. In the implementation instructions of the same recommendations three methods to estimate this duration of stay are proposed :

1. The **intended duration of stay** is recommended when somebody is observed at border crossing or when the person is registered in the immigration country and only if that person has the right to live in the country (e.g. citizens or foreigners holding a permanent residence permit).
2. In case this right is not granted, the intended duration of stay is not appropriate and we should rely on the **duration of validity of the residence permit** in order to be able to identify long-term migrants as those having a residence permit for at least one year and intending to live in the country for at least one year.
3. For asylum seekers and other foreigners not having been granted a residence permit for at least one year the duration of stay in the country may only be estimated one year after immigration using population registers, aliens registers or asylum registers and this is the **ex post duration of stay**.

This third way to estimate the duration of stay through the actual duration of stay is also appropriate in order

- to confirm the intended duration of stay
- to check that the residence permit holder effectively live in the country at least one year whatever the duration of the residence permit as successive permits may be granted for a total duration of more than one year, each of these being granted for less than one year.

Concretely when somebody enters the country and has the right to stay for at least one year but there exist no possibility to capture the intended duration of stay at border and no question is asked at the time of registration, the actual duration of stay may be checked one year after immigration in order to identify long-term migrants. There is also the possibility to apply the same investigation to those who are already considered as international immigrants because their intended duration of stay at arrival was at least one year and they had the right to live in the country for that minimal period of time. Doing so consolidated statistics will only be available for the year t in the first semester of the year $t+2$. The international statistical bodies do often not accept this delay as policy-makers always request the freshest data. Therefore a first proposal could be the following one :

The declaration of arrival classified as the intention to stay in the country and issue the residence permit may be seen in lot of country as a possible information for now-cast of international migration, measure that need to be confirmed afterward by more reliable estimate. Therefore provisional figures based on ratio observed in previous years should be provided and final figures should be released one year later.

The definition of the country of usual residence proposed both in the EU regulation and in the UN recommendations avoids proposing any time constraint. However the

UNECE 2000 Census Round recommendations enhance the point that citizens having left the country since more than 12 months have not to be considered as temporarily absent and therefore are no more part of the usual resident population of the country (UNECE 1998, par. 35). In order to be fully consistent with the definition of an international migrant, the definition of the country of usual residence should be the following one:

The country of usual residence is the country in which a person lives *since at least one year or has the intention to live at least one year and has the right to do so*. In this country he or she should have a place to live where he or she normally spends the daily period of rest.

Only this definition will ensure a full consistency between the flow and stock figures for a given country.

3. Data sources used in EU 25

The availability of statistics on international migration flows is conditioned by the existence of a data collection system that has the potential of yielding meaningful statistical information on the changes of the usual place of residence. Data sources used to produce statistics on international migration flows in the EU countries are very diverse (Table 1). The major types of those sources may be summarized as follows:

- Population registration systems including centralised population registers and local population registers;
- Statistical forms filled for all changes of residence;
- Other administrative registers or databases related to foreigners, like aliens registers, residence permits registers or registers of asylum seekers;
- Sample surveys like special migration surveys or household surveys;
- Other sources including censuses.

The countries try to make the best possible use of national administrative data sources, since alternative statistical tools such as sample surveys have evident drawbacks due above all to sampling variability. A centralised and computerised, comprehensive and complete population registration system providing the continuous recording of information pertaining to each member of the target population seems to be the best source of reliable statistics, provided the people obey the rules related to registration. However, leaving out additional work input, the same statistics may be usually derived from population registers run locally or based on forms (administrative or statistical) filled in when registering changes of residence. If there is no administrative data source covering the whole population or available data on some population categories are considered unreliable, other registers are used that contain only subsets of the

population, e.g. register of foreigners or register of residence permits. Besides, some countries decide to rely on statistical surveys carried out during border controls or among households inside the country. Some information on international migration flows could be derived also from population censuses, but this source has a number of well-known limitations. For instance, it is carried out at long intervals, accommodates only a small number of questions and is not able to capture all migration events that occurred between subsequent enumerations. Moreover only international immigrants may be easily identified while international emigrants are no more part of the enumerated population. Therefore, it cannot constitute a source of annual statistics on international migration.

Detailed information on sources used to produce international migration statistics across the EU are presented in Table 1. To be comprehensive, statistics should cover immigrants and emigrants irrespective of their citizenship. However, governments attach different importance to particular flows. They are more interested in controlling migration of foreigners, in particular immigration, which is reflected in the administrative procedures and data collection systems. Therefore, data sources for statistics on immigration of nationals, immigration of foreigners, emigration of nationals and emigration of foreigners are presented separately in the table.

3.1. Population Registers

Population register is the most widely used source of statistical information on international migration among the Member States. The majority of those registers are run on the national level. Central population registers are used to produce statistics on international migration flows for both nationals and non-nationals in the following ten countries: Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Austria, Finland, Spain and Sweden. The Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovenia derive the statistics from the central population registers, but only on nationals. In Hungary the register does not cover the whole target population of foreigners, since only those with permanent residence permits are included. In the Czech Republic and Slovenia theoretically the population registers have full coverage, but data on foreigners are of inferior quality than in the aliens register from which they were transferred, because the transfers have not been complete. However, this state of affairs is treated as transitional and the population registers are to be used for both nationals and non-nationals in the future.

Population registers that operate at the local level are used to derive statistics on international migration flows in four EU countries: Germany, Spain, Italy and the Netherlands. Details regarding preparation of statistics vary from country to country. In Germany statistics are produced based on the administrative forms for registration of arrivals and departures used at the local level. They are anonymous and aggregated by the statistical offices of the *Länder* on a monthly basis and then transmitted to the Federal Statistical Office. It must be noted that there may be small discrepancies between

registration rules in operation in various *Länder*. In Spain the National Institute of Statistics (INE) keeps a central statistical database that includes information on change of residence received monthly from municipal registers. Apart from the statistical purposes, the INE's register is used to coordinate the operation of the local population registers. In the Netherlands all local registers send by electronic mail changes of residence and administrative corrections to the mailbox of Statistics Netherlands on a daily basis. In Italy preparation of migration flow statistics is based on two different data collection questionnaires carried out by the National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT). In the first questionnaire each municipality is obliged to deliver aggregated data on the demographic balance of the resident population and in the second one, individual data on changes of residence. Statistics based on the two sources differ.

In some countries, centralized population registers are in operation, but they are not used for statistical purposes, as it is the case in Poland and the Slovak Republic. It results from the lack or poor quality of some crucial characteristics. For instance, in the Polish central population register there is no historical information on places of residence. In Slovak population register there are a number of persons whose former Czechoslovak citizenship has not been replaced by the new one (Czech or Slovak), so statistics on flows by citizenship cannot be produced. However, the population register in the Slovak Republic is in reconstruction now and will be used for statistical purposes in the future.

3.2. Statistical forms

In Poland and the Slovak Republic data on international migration for nationals and non-nationals are collected when a person registers or deregisters his or her place of residence. In Poland the statistical parts of the registration forms and copies of the administrative deregistration forms are sent to the Ministry of the Interior, where the data are input into a computer text file and then sent to the Central Statistical Office. In the Slovak Republic special statistical forms are filled in and they are sent directly to the statistical office. Identical forms, inherited from the times when Czechoslovakia existed, were used in the Czech Republic to produce statistics on international migration of nationals until the reference year 2004 inclusive.

3.3. Alien's Register or Residence Permits Database

Special registers dedicated to all or some categories of foreigners constitute a valuable source of data on international migration in the countries where the population register does not cover the whole target foreign population (Greece, Hungary), the development of the population register has not completed yet (the Czech Republic, Slovenia, the Slovak Republic) or there is no population register in the country (France, Portugal). In the Central European countries (the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia, the Slovak Republic) the aliens registers are centralised and both immigration and emigration statistics are derived from them. In the Slovak Republic the aliens' register was used for

the first time to produce data on international migration of foreigners disaggregated by citizenship for the reference year 2003. In Slovenia the emigration figures are estimated on the basis of changes in foreigners stock, vital statistics and immigration data. In Portugal and France the aliens' registers are used only to produce immigration figures. Portugal has a centralized information system. In France situation is more complex than in all other countries. The statistics on international immigration of non-nationals are produced using several sources: (i) data from the *Office des Migrations Internationales* (OMI) covering non-EEA citizens who received medical certificates; (ii) data from the Ministry of the Interior (AGDREF register) for EEA-nationals and certain categories of third-country nationals who are not counted by the OMI; (iii) data from the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA). In Greece no statistics on international migration are currently produced, but some statistics on immigration are to be compiled from two sources managed by two different ministries: the Aliens Register kept by the Ministry of the Interior, that covers third country nationals, and the file for residence permits issued to EU citizens run by the Ministry of Public Order. It is worth to note that even if statistics produced in some countries in question refer to residence permits issued during a reference period, foreigners have to be present in those countries to apply for them.

3.4. Sample surveys

Sample surveys are used to produce statistics on international immigration and emigration flows in three countries: Cyprus, Ireland and the United Kingdom. In Portugal, although this statistical tool is applied to emigration of nationals and non-nationals and immigration of nationals, estimation of the latter flow is prepared only for national purposes. In Portugal and Ireland the sample surveys are households surveys carried out within the country. Cyprus and the United Kingdom rely on sample surveys of border crossers. Besides, the United Kingdom uses supplementary data sources to adjust statistics derived from surveys, namely data on asylum seekers, removals and long-term visitors switchers (visitors who became migrants) from the Home Office, and data on migration flows from Ireland provided by the Irish Central Statistical Office.

3.5. Other sources

Specific data sources are used in Malta. Data on international immigration come from the Customs Department. People who intend to settle in Malta are recorded at the Customs since they have to declare their personal effects. As regards the emigration, the only available information is that on Maltese emigrants requesting permission for permanent settlement in the United Kingdom received from the British High Commission.

Every EU country uses currently the census as a source for the data on stocks of foreign citizens and foreign-born population. For estimation the international immigration and

emigration flows it is rarely used as it cannot supply full coverage migration events and annual periodicity of statistics.

Despite the differences that can exist among countries, methods for measuring migrations may be ranked from the less appropriate to the more suitable to fulfill the UN recommendations. The census is surely the less satisfactory solution as it can only directly give numbers of new immigrants from around the census. Cross border counting theoretically allows estimating entries as well as exits. UN recommendations could be, always theoretically, followed by asking a question at the entry and another at the exit about the expected or real length of the stay or if passports are stamped. However, the reliability of existing systems is low and not easy to improve. Specific surveys can be considered as a progress, but the size of the sample limits its utilization.

The collection of statistics based on the issue of residence permits and long-stay visas can theoretically better fill the existing lack of sources on international migration. However, the utilization of this source is limited to foreigners only and practically may be used rather to supplement statistics for foreigners. In some countries minors have no the obligation to hold a residence permit. Moreover, the fact of obtaining a visa or a residence permit does not mean that this person is going to use it (at least when residence permits are issued abroad before the entry) nor stay until its expiry, which would allow determine the actual duration of the stay. As far as inflows are concerned, the necessity to distinguish precisely first residence permits issued (for a length of validity of at least one year) from residence permit delivered at the occasion of a renewal (or for a shorter period) is probably the most complicated task to overcome by the ministries of interior frequently involved in this new statistical process.

The population register allows making undeniable progress, as it is the only source, which records both immigrations and emigrations, and in which the link between each individual's entry and exit can be made and therefore the real long or short duration of the stay can be established. However all population register are not reliable. Only the fact that they are centralized guarantees the reliability of the system, making sure that the entries and exits are correctly established avoiding double counts. Even using a reliable centralized population register does not guarantee an international compatibility between immigration and emigration figures as the double matrices have shown.

4. Data availability

Based on the data sources described above the National Statistical Institutes (hereafter referred to as NSI) of the Member States produce statistics on international migration flows. However, the scope of those statistics varies considerably. The delivery of tabulations is constrained by various factors, such as lack of appropriate characteristics in a data collection system, low reliability of some variables or legal restrictions to gather

some personal information. Table 2 presents the details about availability of data requested under the EU regulation.

Generally, the figures on total immigration and emigration flows are available, with only a few exceptions, where there is no source for data or quality of the data has been considered very low. There are no statistics on immigrants and emigrants in Estonia. Due to the poor quality of the available data the NSI decided not to produce international migration statistics. Besides, Greece and France do not have any statistics on emigration. Emigration statistics in Malta refer only to emigration of nationals to the United Kingdom. Immigration statistics in Greece, France and Portugal do not cover nationals. As regards statistics derived from surveys (in Ireland and the United Kingdom), they are presented only for the most numerous disaggregation categories due to high estimation errors for small samples. This refers to disaggregations by citizenship, country of birth and country of previous/next residence, and in the case of the United Kingdom – by age.

The most widely available tables on international migration present the number of *immigrants by citizenship*. The majority of countries in the EU deliver these data annually. The rest of countries, like Estonia, Greece, France, Malta, Poland and Portugal are not able to present this data either on all or on a group of immigrants. Still, several of these countries plan to produce these data in the near future. In Greece these data will be based on residence permits. In the case of Malta, immigrants of Maltese origin, that could be Maltese or non-Maltese nationals, are not disaggregated by citizenship. Only foreigners without Maltese origin are disaggregated.

There are more problems related to data on international immigration by country of birth and country of previous residence.

Statistics on *immigrants by country of birth* are fully or partly not available on annual base in almost half of EU member states. In Greece, Cyprus and France this information is not gathered. However, in Cyprus inclusion of appropriate question in the passenger survey should not encounter difficulties. In Poland, only information on place of birth is collected and derivation of country of birth is not straightforward. In Portugal statistics on immigration by country of birth are produced for foreigners only. In some countries like the Slovak Republic and France, the data are available on foreigners, but the statistics are not compiled. Although statistics on immigrants by country of birth are currently not available in Estonia, Austria, the Czech Republic, Luxembourg, Slovenia and the Slovak Republic, they are to be produced in the near future. In Austria, where the Central Population Register has just been created, the country of birth variable needs development based on the local population registers, as at the time of the work on the centralised system, information on country of birth was not available in an electronic format for all municipalities. In some countries information on country of birth is perceived as a variable that must be legally protected. In Belgium, country of birth is not

included in the list of so-called “legal variables” and these data are not allowed to publish. Therefore, the data on immigration by country of birth are not disseminated even if they are of good quality. In Germany, information on country of birth is available in the population register. However, in compliance with the national regulation on population statistics, it is not transmitted to the NSI.

Information on *country of previous residence* is not collected at all or is not complete in several countries. In particular, it is missing in Greece and France for both nationals and non-nationals, in Slovenia for non-nationals and in Hungary for nationals (in Hungary, information is gathered for non-nationals, but is not complete). Estonia and Luxembourg do not publish these statistics due to poor registration of information on a country of previous residence. In Belgium country of previous residence is not considered as “a legal variable”. As a result it might be not recorded for all immigrants and its quality is considered very low. Maltese statistics on immigration by country of previous residence cover people with Maltese origin only.

Availability of statistics on international *emigration by citizenship, country of birth or country of next residence* in the EU countries is quite similar to that on international immigration. However, some countries that produce immigration data based on residence permits, namely Greece, France and Portugal, do not have emigration statistics, unless they conduct a special survey as Portugal does.

Concerning to the migration flows, particularly important are statistics on flows of foreigners by country of previous/next residence. Some general assumptions are made by NSIs in two cases: (i) when emigration statistics are derived from data on dates of expiry of residence permits; (ii) when information on country of origin or destination of foreign migrants is missing. In the Czech Republic, where emigration data for aliens are based on expiry of residence permits and self-declared cancellation of permanent residence in the country, it is assumed that all foreigners emigrate to countries of their citizenship. Similarly in Germany, when the registration forms collected by the regional statistical offices do not contain information on a place of next or previous residence, it is assumed that foreign persons come from/move to their countries of citizenship. In Lithuania the determination of country of next residence in the case of expiry of residence permits is based on the country where foreigners came from.

Some countries, e.g. Belgium, Denmark and the Netherlands, distinguish special category called administrative correction that covers not-declared emigration of nationals and non-nationals. Administrative correction by its very nature cannot be disaggregated by country of next residence. Therefore, the practice of the above three countries is that the information on country of destination is left unknown.

5. Data reliability

The very availability of statistics is not an end in itself. Even if statistics are available, their poor quality may render them useless. In this section one key aspect of data quality is addressed, namely reliability. The concept of reliability is understood here as the compliance of statistics with the national definition, that may substantially differ from the internationally recommended one. Therefore, even if an incorrect definition is applied, but data collection is meticulous, data are classified as reliable. In such a situation data users can trust in the available statistics – there is an exact correspondence between concepts underlying the data and the produced statistics.

There are two main factors that make international migration statistics unreliable. The first one is the underregistration of migrants, which refers in particular to countries where data collection systems rely on self-declarations of international movements. The second relates to data coverage. A data collection system used in a country may not cover the whole target population and in result some subsets are excluded from the statistics. Here we do not refer to a situation where for example data are collected for foreigners only, but to the one when some of the persons included in the definition are excluded from the data collection procedure (see below).

In addition to the above two factors, data might be unreliable if a lot of errors arise during data processing.

As presented in the availability section, a vast majority of international migration statistics in the EU countries are derived from registration systems. No doubt the deficiencies in registration have the most significant influence on data reliability. People do not register or deregister because there is no such obligation or even if this is required. The willingness to report changes of place of residence varies from one country to another. People take into account advantages and disadvantages resulting from being registered or not. In general, they have more interest in reporting their arrival than departure. Therefore, immigration statistics are considered more reliable.

Data based on sample surveys cannot be considered as reliable due to estimation errors and generally high volatility.

Statistics on migration flows prepared using information on issued or expired residence permits generally should be reliable, because each fact of issuing a permit is documented in the registers kept by the ministries of interior and there is no problem of persons who do not register.

As regards data coverage, first of all it should be noted that illegal flows of migrants, which are difficult to measure, are generally not included. Spain is the only EU country where illegal migrants are included in the official statistics on international migration.

As regards legal migrants, the most problematic group are asylum seekers. In general, asylum seekers are included only when they have been granted a refugee status and received a temporary or permanent residence permits. In Germany, Spain, Austria and the Netherlands they are recorded in the population register and at the same time included in immigration statistics at the earlier stage of the asylum procedure. In Cyprus and Ireland they are covered by statistics based on surveys. In the United Kingdom asylum seekers are not covered by the survey that is the main source for international flow statistics, but the Home Office provides the estimates. By contrast, recognised refugees are never included in migration statistics in Hungary, Portugal, Malta and Belgium.

Students are another example of persons that are in the grey area, for instance they are not covered by international migration statistics in France, Portugal and Finland. In Germany in four Länder not all seasonal workers are included, as additional time constraint regarding registration requirements is introduced.

On the other hand, in some cases overcoverage rather than undercoverage is observed. For instance, foreigners born in Portugal are treated as immigrants. More general example is that of counting "migration" instead of "migrants". It refers to international migration statistics produced in Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and Austria.

The consistency of international migration statistics available in different databases and publications is a distinct matter. Errors might be generated during data processing. However, when different figures are published for a country in different sources, it raises doubts about the quality of the data. In order to evaluate the quality of data on international migration flows figures on total immigration and total emigration in 1999-2002 were compared for each country in the following sources: Eurostat database, EC DG JFS Annual Reports on Asylum and Migration, Joint Eurostat-UNSD-UNECE-CoE-ILO Questionnaires on International Migration Statistics, CoE publications "Recent demographic developments in Europe", official websites of national statistical institutes, SOPEMI reports and the EUROSTAT project "Quality review of MIGRAT in NewCronos". A group of countries for which total flow statistics are highly consistent across all inspected sources and time includes Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Slovenia and Sweden. The countries for which significant problems have been noticed include Latvia, Portugal, Ireland and Italy. For other countries less or more frequent inconsistencies have been detected. The most frequent sources of inconsistencies are: differences between provisional and final data, differences in the coverage, and the wrong reference time of the data.

6. Data comparability

The lack of uniformity in the definitions of international migrants used in various countries has been recognized for a long time but up to now most efforts towards achieving international comparability of international migration statistics have not been successful. Furthermore, concepts underlying statistics of international migration flows vary significantly not only between countries, but also within countries over time and between different sources of statistical information. It should be also emphasized that very often immigration and emigration definitions applied in a particular country do not correspond precisely. This section aims to provide an overview of the definitions and concepts currently used in the statistical systems of all 25 EU countries. Some brief remarks concerning recent improvements will be also made.

The main sources of variations in definitions used in the EU countries are the differences in the concept of place of residence and duration of stay that are applied to determine who is an international migrant. Because the datasets are usually not accompanied by detailed methodological information these concepts remain a relatively uncharted area for most data users.

In short, residence is a vaguely defined concept that is widely used in defining international migration. In fact, most countries base their definitions of international migration on a change of country of residence. In some cases this is the only concept underlying the definition, which makes this concept even more crucial. A variety of possible interpretations and nuances of the term place of residence can lead to the lack of clarity of the statistics. First of all, it can be interpreted from a legal (*de jure*) or actual (*de facto*) point of view. In the former approach the laws and regulations binding in a country in question specify requirements that have to be fulfilled in order to become a resident. The conditions differ between nationals and non-nationals, and among non-nationals there are two distinct groups namely foreigners with the right to free movement and the others. In fact, nationals have an unconditional right of residence in their country of citizenship, whereas the rights of foreigners are hedged with conditions. Nationals may still make up a part of the population of their country of citizenship even if they have been living abroad for a number of years. It may also refer to foreign settlers with respect to a country other than their own, in whose territory they have the right to stay indefinitely. Thus, having a place of residence in a country does not necessarily mean a presence in its territory. As a result nationals cannot be migrants unless actual presence and absence are considered. From the *de facto* perspective residence is directly connected with presence in the country in question. Usually, presence must be for a specified minimum period of time.

Therefore, time is considered as a supplementary concept to that of residence. However, level of concreteness is diverse across the countries. On the one hand, definitions currently in use often say that migration takes place in the case of a change of country of

residence for a minimum period of time. Then the period is precisely defined. On the other hand, some countries take into account only permanent change of residence, but permanent does not necessarily mean the same in different countries. Its meaning can be understood literally (in this sense a permanent immigrant/emigrant is seen as someone intending to stay infinitely within/abroad) or as equivalent to a long term.

When an exact period is used, another problem arises related to the distinction between intended and actual duration. The use of the actual duration concept causes that the production of the statistics would be systematically delayed by the period used as the time criterion in the migration definition. Currently, the intended duration concept is applied everywhere (in the Czech Republic the actual duration of stay was taken into account in the immigration statistics for 2001 and 2002). Therefore, a hidden assumption is made that an intended duration will become the actual one. However, in the case of non-nationals the expressed intention is usually limited by the time specified in the authorization to stay. Very often, the statutory length of stay is used instead of the intended one. This approach has a few evident advantages. The legal time is objective and easy to record accurately by the receiving country. However, the actual presence of foreigners in the country may often differ from that determined by legal time.

Details on time criterion used and compatibility with EU regulation for international immigrants and emigrants in the 25 countries of the European Union are presented in Table 3 separately for nationals and non-nationals.

The threshold durations used by countries are radically different. On the one hand, there are countries where time of residence is of no relevance and any move in or out of dwelling should be registered and deregistered and it is directly reflected in statistics. However, if there is no duration of stay criterion the registration deadline may be taken as a minimum time threshold for identifying migration events. On the other hand, there are countries where only movements for infinite duration (settlement migration) are counted. Leaving aside the extreme situations the duration of stay criterion applied in migration statistics across the EU is usually set to a period from three months to one year. Only Cyprus, Sweden and UK apply strictly the one-year criteria for immigration as well as for emigration, whatever the citizenship, while Finland does it for all emigrations but only on immigration of non-nationals. The majority of countries have fixed a shorter threshold while a number of new member states combine a shorter criterion with the permanent concept. However in all these countries the situation is far to be fixed since a convergence toward the one-year limit is seen as possible in a near future, especially in countries having currently a short time limit.

Conclusion

The EU Member States must provide statistics related to immigration as well as to emigration whatever the migrant is a national or a non-national. This defines 4 types of migration. As regards to availability of the statistics, the situation is rather encouraging since 20 countries fulfill a complete picture. One of elements is missing in only 5 countries. There is no specific type of migration the data availability of which is larger than that for others. For instance data for foreign immigration, frequently considered as the most important on the political point of view, are missing in only Greece, while Estonia do not publish data because of low reliability of the population register, the only available data source for statistics. Besides, no data is currently found for migration of foreigners also in Malta and France.

In the majority of the countries in EU, the population register is the data source for migration statistics (more than 60 percent of the information), followed by surveys (about 14%), and by residence permit registers (10%). 18 countries have a population registration system and 13 of these countries use it as unique source for migration data. The combination of sources is preferred mainly in new member states. Except in Estonia, countries with population register are in the best position since the data is completely delivered for all four types of migration. That it is not the case for the 7 countries without population registration system where data are frequently missing. The situation is not satisfying in France and above all in Greece. Three countries are using only the survey as a source (Ireland, The United Kingdom and Cyprus): For these countries as they situate on islands this solution is easier to put in place compared to other countries. Portugal is the only country combining survey and residence permit register. As a result, the increase in of data availability is depending of the improvement of the situation in countries currently without population register and especially in those where border surveys would provide low data quality.

The registration systems and consequently the producers of statistics have more difficulties to cover emigrations than immigrations. Therefore, the procedure of deregistration should be facilitated in terms of administrative procedure and both the concerned persons and administrations should not be interested to hide the emigration.

For citizens, immatriculation or registration in the consulates abroad should be encouraged through concrete advantages and the information should be systematically transferred to the central population registration system to be proceed to the deregistration in the previous place of residence.

On external borders of the EU where border crossings controls are organised, foreigners with temporary or permanent residence permit should be systematically checked when leaving the country. If the permit is still valid, the possibility for remigration should be granted and the emigration should be registered with indication of the time of intended

return or intended duration of absence. If the permit is no more valid the information should be transferred to both the Aliens Register and the Central Population Registration System for deregistration purpose and the registration of emigration. What happens when third country foreigner leaves EU at external border but did not live in this border country but in another EU country? Where to give information collected on border?

Within EU where systematic border crossing controls are not organised, the holder of valid temporary or permanent residence permit should be granted the right of remigration in a given EU country only if the emigration is declared. At the same time the new EU country of destination and intended duration of absence should be recorded.

For this, on top of or apart from the population register there should be a removal card system. Any person leaving the country A would receive a form to be filled and that should be given to the authorities in country B at his arrival. Thereafter the country B will decide whether or not it is an international immigrant (short term or long term according the UN definition) and inform the country A on this decision. Doing so the compatibility between immigration and emigration statistics will be ensured as proved by the Nordic countries.

The information on the end of validity for residence permit should be systematically transferred to the population registration system and used as the starting point for investigation and the possible deregistration.

Similarly with Nordic countries, exchange of information on individuals moving within the EU should be organised on the basis of bilateral agreements between pairs of countries or within larger groups of countries.

Ideally, all the countries with a system of population registers and active records of changes of the place of residence could, at least in the long term, exchange minimum information on international migrants. The inclusion on all national forms of a common body of questions for declaring a change of residence would further reach this goal. In addition, data exchange between statistical services or qualified administrations could prove very useful.

Table 1. Sources of data on international migration flows (Source :THESIM project)

	Immigration or emigration	Central Population Register		Local Population Registers		Statistical forms		Alien's Register or residence permits database		Sample survey		Other type of source	
		NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR
BE	IMMI	X	X										
	EMI	X	X										
CZ	IMMI	X							X				
	EMI	X							X				
DK	IMMI	X	X										
	EMI	X	X										
DE	IMMI			X	X								
	EMI			X	X								
EE	IMMI	[X] ⁵	[X]										
	EMI	[X]	[X]										
EL	IMMI								[X]				
	EMI												
ES	IMMI	X	X										
	EMI	X	X										
FR	IMMI								X		[X]		
	EMI												
IE	IMMI									X	X		
	EMI									X	X		
IT	IMMI			X	X								
	EMI			X	X								
CY	IMMI									X	X		
	EMI									X	X		
LV	IMMI	X	X										
	EMI	X	X										
LT	IMMI	X	X										
	EMI	X	X										
LU	IMMI	X	X										
	EMI	X	X										
HU	IMMI	X							X				
	EMI	X							X				
MT	IMMI					X	X						
	EMI											X	
NL	IMMI			X	X								
	EMI			X	X								
AT	IMMI	X	X										
	EMI	X	X										
PL	IMMI					X	X						
	EMI					X	X						
PT	IMMI								X	[X]			
	EMI									X	X		
SI	IMMI	X							X				
	EMI	X							X				
SK	IMMI					X	X		X				
	EMI					X	X		X				
FI	IMMI	X	X										
	EMI	X	X										
SE	IMMI	X	X										
	EMI	X	X										
UK	IMMI									X	X		
	EMI									X	X		

⁵ Information referring to data which may be available at some point in the future according the responsible authority or the data supplier.

Table 2. Availability of statistics on international migration flows⁶(Source: THESIM project)

	Immigration or Emigration	Total	By citizenship			By country of birth			By country of previous/ next residence		
			Total	Additional dimension		Total	Additional dimension		Total	Additional dimension	
				Age	Sex		Age	Sex		Age	Sex
BE	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	-[+]	-[+]	-[+]	..Q	..LQ	..LQ
CZ	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	-[+]	-[+]	-[+]	+	+	+
DK	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
DE	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
EE	IMMI&EMI	-Q [+]	-Q [+]	-Q [+]	-Q [+]	-Q [+]	-Q [+]	-Q [+]	-Q [+]	-Q [+]	-Q [+]
EL	IMMI EMI	-[f:+] -	-[f:+] -	-[f:+] -	-[f:+] -	-	-	-	-	-	-
ES	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	±	+
FR	IMMI EMI	n:- f:± -	n:- f:± [+] -	n:- f:± [+] -	n:- f:± [+] -	-	-	-	-	-	-
IE	IMMI&EMI	+	±	+	+	±	+	+	±	+	+
IT	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
CY	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
LV	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
LT	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
LU	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	-[+]	-[+]	-[+]	-Q	-Q	-Q
HU	IMMI EMI	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	n:- f:-Q -	n:- f:-Q -	n:- f:-Q -
MT	IMMI EMI	± n:± f:-	± -	+	+	±	+	+	±	n:± f:-	n:± f:-
NL	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
AT	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	-Q [+]	-Q [+]	-Q [+]	+	+	+
PL	IMMI&EMI	+	-Q	-Q	-Q	-	-	-	+	+	+
PT	IMMI EMI	n:- f:± +	n:- f:± -	n:- f:± -	n:- f:± -	n:- f:± -	n:- f:± -	n:- f:± -	n:- f:± +	n:- f:± ?	n:- f:± +
SI	IMMI EMI	+	+	+	n:± f:-[+]	-[+]	-[+]	-[+]	n:± f:-	n:± f:-	n:± f:-
SK	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	n:-[+] f:±	-[+]	-[+]	+	+	+
FI	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SE	IMMI&EMI	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
UK	IMMI&EMI	+	±	±	+	±	±	+	±	±	+

⁶ Legend :

- + Available
- Not available
- ?
- Availability unknown
- n: Information referring to nationals
- f: Information referring to non-nationals
- [] Information referring to data that might be produced in the future
- Q Statistics are not produced due to low quality of data
- L There are legal constraints on the publication of data
- ± Only some data are available:
 - ES: Broad age groups;
 - FR: Immigration statistics do not cover EEA citizens; Disaggregation by age and sex available but not provided;
 - IE: Selected countries of citizenship/birth/previous or next residence;
 - MT: Immigration statistics available only for selected countries of citizenship/birth/previous residence; Statistics on immigration by country of previous residence refer to immigration of persons of Maltese origin; Emigration statistics cover only nationals emigrating to the UK;
 - UK: Selected countries of citizenship/birth/previous or next residence; Disaggregation by age available only for some countries.

Table 3. Time criteria and compatibility of international migration statistics⁷ (Source : THESIM)

	Immigration or Emigration	Nationals	Other EU citizens	Non EU citizens	Possibility of providing statistics according to the 12 months rule ⁸		
					Nationals	Other EU citizens	Non EU citizens
BE	IMMI	3 months	3 months	3 months	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	3 months	3 months	3 months/permit expiry	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
CZ	IMMI	permanent	3 months	one year	N	N	Y
	EMI	permanent	permanent/permit expiry	permanent/permit expiry	N	N	N
DK	IMMI	no time criteria	6 months	3 months	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	6 months	6 months	6 months	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
DE	IMMI	no time criteria	no time criteria	no time criteria	N	Y	Y
	EMI	no time criteria	no time criteria	no time criteria	N	Y	Y
EE	IMMI	permanent	3 months	3 months	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	permanent	6 months	6 months	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
EL	IMMI	no statistics	no statistics	[one year]	N	N	N
	EMI	no statistics	no statistics	no statistics	N	N	N
ES	IMMI	no time criteria	no time criteria	no time criteria	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	no time criteria	no time criteria	no time criteria	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
FR	IMMI	no statistics	one year (p)	right of long term settlement (p) ⁹	N	Y	Y
	EMI	no statistics	no statistics	no statistics	N	N	N
IE	IMMI	no time criteria (s)	no time criteria (s)	no time criteria (s)	N	N	N
	EMI	no time criteria (s)	no time criteria (s)	no time criteria (s)	N	N	N
IT	IMMI	no time criteria	no time criteria	6 months	N	N	N
	EMI	one year	one year	one year	Y		Y
CY	IMMI	one year	one year	one year	Y	Y	Y
	EMI	one year	one year	one year	Y	Y	Y
LV	IMMI	no time criteria	no time criteria/one year	no time criteria/one year	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	6 months	6 months/permit expiry	6 months/permit expiry	N	N	N
LT	IMMI	6 months	6 months/one year	6 months/one year	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	6 months	6 months/permit expiry	6 months/permit expiry	N	N	N

⁷ This table presents minimum duration of stay (in or outside the country) of migrants included in international migration statistics. The duration of stay criterion may result either from the registration rules and/or from the selection rules applied when producing statistics.

Legend :

[] The responsible authority or data supplier has indicated that these data may be available at some point in the future

(p) Migration statistics are based on issued residence permits

(s) Migration statistics are estimated based on the household survey

.../...Information refers to: foreigners with permanent residence permits/other foreigners

⁸ Information on the possibility of providing statistics according to the 12 months rule refer to migration flow statistics produced on an ex-ante basis. If a country is able to provide statistics according to the 12 months rule, but only on an ex-post basis, the footnote "ex-post" has been added (Y^{ex-post}). In the case where statistics cannot be provided for all members of the specified citizenship groups ("nationals", "other EU citizens", "non EU citizens") the footnote "part" (Y^{part}) has been inserted, indicating problem cases.

Problems with providing statistics according to the 12 months rule:

LV, LT: Foreigners with permanent residence permits are obliged to follow the same rules as Nationals and statistics on their migration according to the 12 months rule may be produced on an ex-post basis only.

SE, FI: The 12 month rule cannot be followed on an ex-ante basis in the case of migration between members of the Nordic agreement.

⁹ Right of long-term settlement refers to foreigners selected to receive long-term resident permit in the future, even if they do not receive it at the moment of the entry. Therefore, some of those people with temporary residence permits valid for up to 1 year are included.

	Immigration or Emigration	Nationals	Other EU citizens	Non EU citizens	Possibility of providing statistics according to the 12 months rule ⁸		
					Nationals	Other EU citizens	Non EU citizens
LU	IMMI	no time criteria	no time criteria	no time criteria	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	no time criteria	no time criteria	no time criteria	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
HU	IMMI	3 months	3 months (EEA)	one year	N	N	Y
	EMI	3 months	permanent/permit expiry	permanent/permit expiry	N	N	N
MT	IMMI	permanent	permanent	permanent	N	N	Y
	EMI	permanent	no statistics	no statistics	N	N	N
NL	IMMI	4 out of the forthcoming 6 months	4 out of the forthcoming 6 months	4 out of the forthcoming 6 months	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	8 out of the forthcoming 12 months	8 out of the forthcoming 12 months	8 out of the forthcoming 12 months	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
AT	IMMI	90 days [one year]	90 days [one year]	90 days [one year]	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	90 days [one year]	90 days [one year]	90 days [one year]	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
PL	IMMI	permanent	permanent	permanent	N	N	N
	EMI	permanent	permanent	permanent	N	N	N
PT	IMMI	no statistics	one year (p)	one year (p)	N	Y	Y
	EMI	one year (s)	one year (s)	one year (s)	Y	Y	Y
SI	IMMI	3 months	3 months	3 months	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	3 months	permanent/permit expiry	permanent/permit expiry	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{ex-post}
SK	IMMI	permanent	permanent	permanent/3 months (p)	N	N	N
	EMI	permanent	permanent	permanent/permit expiry	N	N	N
FI	IMMI	no time criteria	one year	one year	Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	one year	one year	one year	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}
SE	IMMI	one year	one year	one year	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}
	EMI	one year	one year	one year	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}	Y ^{part} , Y ^{ex-post}
UK	IMMI	one year	one year	one year	Y	Y	Y
	EMI	one year	one year	one year	Y	Y	Y