



On-line Questionnaire on The future rules on the entry and residence of non-EU national researchers, students, school pupils, unremunerated trainees and volunteers in the EU

The presence of non-EU students and researchers in the EU is enriching both for receiving societies and migrants themselves. It promotes familiarity among cultures and contributes to acquiring and exchanging values, attitudes and aspirations. In this context, the Commission is examining how to improve the existing migration rules applicable to third-country students and researchers, increase the EU's attractiveness in a global competition for talent and promote the EU as a destination for study and research.

To this end, the revision process explores ways of facilitating entry, residence and mobility of these groups of third country nationals and strengthening their rights. It is also being assessed to what extent the process could cover non-EU school pupils, volunteers and unremunerated trainees.

Any future proposal should also be seen in the wider context of the EU's external migration policy and its dialogue and cooperation with third countries in this area, as defined by the EU Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM). One particular issue in this context is the need for the EU to reconcile its interests and objectives in promoting inward researchers' and students' mobility with its confirmed commitment to assist developing countries addressing brain drain challenges in critical sectors.

The main objectives of the reform identified so far call, in particular, for specific regulation on streamlining long-term visa and residence permit procedures, provisions to facilitate mobility between EU Member States, to set out conditions of access to the labour market and to ensure appropriate procedural safeguards, including faster procedures and rights of appeal.

In order to consult a broad range of interested persons and stakeholders and collect their views on the revision process, help in identifying problem areas and propose measures to address them, DG HOME has launched a public **on-line Questionnaire**. The public consultation will close on **23 August 2012**.

The consultation is accessible at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/vourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=:Immigration201.2>

Or via DG HOME web-site:

http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/news/consultingpublic/consulting_0024_en.htm

The questionnaire is intended for the **main target groups of the future Directive**: that is past and future third-country national applicants to study, carry out research, and participate in volunteering programme, school pupil exchange programme or in unpaid traineeship in the EU.