



Ad-Hoc Query on consulting body on migration and asylum.

Requested by CY EMN NCP on 7th September 2009

Compilation produced on 24th September 2009

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom (19 in Total)

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1. Background Information

The Cyprus Ministry of Interior intends to create a consulting body on migration and asylum matters, which will be composed mainly by academics. We would like to submit a question whether other Member States consult Institutes (academic or state Migration and/or Asylum Institutes) for the development of state policy on asylum and migration matters and If so, to inform us on the status of these institutes.

In view of the above, we have the following questions:

- 1) Does your m-s consult Institutes (academic or state Migration and/or Asylum Institutes) for the development of state policy on asylum and migration matters?
- 2) If yes, what is the status of these institutes?

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2. Responses

		Wider Dissemination?	
	Austria	No	"This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further." This is the Compilation for Wider Dissemination .
	Belgium	Yes	In Belgium, no permanent consulting body on migration and asylum exists. However, the government, the minister or the parliamentary commissions can consult scientific experts, consultants, government experts etc. in the field. They can also install ad hoc commissions to work on a certain theme in the field of migration and asylum (e.g. return)
	Finland	Yes	1. Finland does not consult academic or state institutes systematically when developing state policy nor are there such institutes focused on migration issues which could serve as official or permanent consulting bodies. The Ministry of the Interior consults different organisations or institutes, among others the Institute for Human Rights at Åbo Akademi University, on a case by case basis when amending legislation, conducting reviews etc. In addition, the functions of Advisory Board on Ethnic Relations (ETNO, a broad-based expert body set up by the Finnish Government) include, for example, promotion of good ethnic relations and ethnic equality, as well as mutual interaction and cooperation in the various component areas of immigration policy and providing expert assistance in the development of immigration policy. 2. -
	Germany	Yes	1. Currently, there is no permanent external academic advisory body to consult the German Federal Government on migration and asylum matters. However, the Federal Ministry of the Interior, in its responsibility for the development of asylum and migration policies, has two public research bodies at its disposal, which support the development of state policy: The Federal Institute for Population Research (BIB) and the Research Group within the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF). Additionally, the Federal Ministry of the Interior solicits renowned academic experts or research institutes for expert opinions and reports on an ad-hoc-basis. The Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs has established a consultative platform in order

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			<p>to monitor, and cater to the needs of the labour market, particularly to determine potential labour shortages (“Arbeitskräfteallianz”)</p> <p>The task of the Federal Institute for Population Research (BIB), which has been established in 1973 as a public body, is to conduct auxiliary scientific research on population and related family matters as a basis of the work of the Federal Government. This includes the compilation, editing, and above all, the publication of scientific data resulting from such research. The BIB informs and advises the Federal Government on important developments and research results, and assists the Federal Ministry of the Interior with its duties concerning international co-operation on population issues, in particular in the United Nations and the Council of Europe. Since 1 January 2005, the Research Group within the BAMF analyses the effects of migration processes on the Federal Republic of Germany and provides evidence for the management of migration on the national level. This task is carried out pursuant to Section 75 Paragraph 4 of the Residence Act. In addition, the Research Group contributes to the further scientific development of integration measures. Further fields of research are concerned with the socio-economic motives for, and effects of immigration, the interrelation of migration and demographic change and international migratory movements. In order to fulfil its tasks, the research group collaborates with other scientific institutions on the national and international level. In spring 2009 the “Alliance for Labour” (German: “Arbeitskräfteallianz”) was formed at the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs as a permanent platform for an open dialogue about the needs of the German labour market. It consists of members of the federal and state governments and representatives of the business world, of trade unions and of employer and industry associations. With the help of researchers, it will draft a labour market monitoring procedure, which is to reflect, among other things, companies’ expectations of their future qualified labour requirements. The alliance for labour is to present its first report by 31 December 2009. It will make annual reports in the future. A number of academic institutes or individual experts, every so often and when required, provide expertise to the Federal Government to support policy development in the area of asylum and migration, or foreigners law. Among them are institutes linked to a University such as the european forum for migration studies (efms) at University of Bamberg or the Centre for International and European Law on Immigration and Asylum at the University of Konstanz, or private institutes such as the Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI), which is a non-profit, limited liability company</p>
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			(gemeinnützige GmbH) under German law. Several of these academic institutes as well as some administrative and international bodies are also represented within the national network of the German Contact Point for the EMN and thus occasionally engage in consultative tasks (a full list of these organisations is available on the German EMN-website).
	Hungary	Yes	For enhancing its commitment to the integration of foreigners, the Ministry of Justice and Law Enforcement set up a working group dealing with integration issues in June 2008. All the relevant stakeholders dealing with integration issues have been taking part in the work of this expert team, including international organizations, other ministries, the Office of Immigration and Nationality, researchers (Demographic Institute of the Central Statistical Office and the Hungarian Academy of Science) and relevant NGO's. The working group provides an excellent opportunity to discuss all the important issues in the field of integration, to coordinate the measures taken in this field and to harmonize the management of all the national and European funds avoiding overlaps among them. Beyond that established fora, all actors can express their opinion on the drafts of legal instruments which are put on the website of the Ministry of Justice and Law Enforcement.
	Ireland	Yes	<p>Research bodies such as the National Economic and Social Council (NESC) and the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) produce research which informs State policy. Both these bodies are state-funded.</p> <p>The National Economic and Social Council analyses and reports to the Taoiseach (Prime Minister) on strategic issues relating to the efficient development of the economy and the achievement of social justice and the development of a strategic framework for the conduct of relations and negotiation of agreements between the government and social partners. In 2006, the NESC produced a report on Migration Policy, and commissioned the IOM to produce a separate report on migration in Ireland.</p> <p>The Economic and Social Research Institute produces research that contributes to understanding economic and social change and that informs public policymaking and civil society in Ireland and throughout the European Union. The Irish National Contact Point of the European Migrant Network is located at the ESRI.</p> <p>From time to time, independent research by academic centres specialising in migration will inform</p>

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			certain specific policies.
	Italy	Yes	<p>In Italy 3 are the foreseen advisory bodies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The National Commission for Integration Policies is composed of representatives of the competent Ministries for a maximum of ten experts with qualified experience in the fields of social, legal and economic problems of immigration. 2. The Council for the problems of foreign immigrants and their families is composed of representatives of organizations engaged in immigration matters, representatives of non-EU foreigners, representatives of national trade union confederations of workers and employers. 3. The National Coordination Organism, which members are established by the President of the National Council for Economics and Labor (CNEL), in agreement with the Minister of Labour, Health and Social Policy.
	Lithuania	Yes	<p>No. Lithuania does not have an institute that is consulting the government for the development of migration and asylum policy.</p> <p>On ad-hoc basis the Government sometimes uses commissions that are composed of governmental as well as non-governmental and academic representatives who consult the Government of migration policy development (eg. Commission on Economic Migration).</p>
	Malta	No	"This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further."
	Netherlands	Yes	<p>The Advisory Committee on Migration Affairs (Adviescommissie voor Vreemdelingenzaken - ACVZ) is an independent Committee that advises the Dutch Government and Parliament on immigration law and policy. The Advisory Committee on Migration Affairs was installed on November 28th, 2001 as a result of the Aliens Act 2000.</p> <p>Advisory reports on policy issues</p>

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			<p>The Advisory Committee on Migration Affairs reports on immigration policy issues. The advisory reports are directed primarily at the Government. The Government informs Parliament of its point of view on the issue within three months. Generally the report and the Government's point of view are debated in Parliament.</p> <p>Advisory reports on proposals concerning the Aliens Act 2000 and the Aliens Decree 2000</p> <p>The ACVZ reports on proposals to amend the Aliens Act 2000 and the Aliens Decree 2000. These reports are presented to the Government and to Parliament. The advisory report is made public as soon as the amendment of the Act or Decree is made public.</p>
	<p>Poland</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Inter-ministerial Committee on Migration is an auxiliary organ of the Prime Minister. It is chaired by the Minister of Interior and Administration. Deputy chairs include undersecretaries of state from the Ministry of Interior and Administration and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy appointed for that role. The Committee is composed of secretaries or undersecretaries of state from various ministries, as well as heads of other offices and institutions whose scope of competence is related to migration issues. The main objective of the Committee is to ensure the coordination of efforts and actions undertaken by governmental administration organs with regard to migration, to exchange information and to monitor the work carried out on the European Community level. The Committee's tasks include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. initiating legislative and institutional change related to migration and recommending such change to the Council of Ministers for the adoption of its standpoint thereon; 2. preparing proposals concerning modification of the current scope of competence related to migration; 3. issuing opinions on multiannual and annual national programs of the European Fund for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals; 4. suggesting direction of action for integration of foreigners in Poland; 5. exchanging information and monitoring the work carried out within the European Union in the field of migration; 6. cooperating with governmental administration organs, local governments and non-governmental organizations in the field of migration. <p>Governmental institutions, non-governmental organizations, universities and migrants' associations are</p>

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			involved in the consultations made in connection with preparation to work on new act on aliens.
	Portugal	Yes	No. In Portugal the academics or other consult institutes don't have a formal and active advisory role in policy on migration and asylum.
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>1). In the Slovak Republic, a Steering Committee for Migration and Integration of Foreigners implements its tasks since June 2009. It is the main co-ordinating, inter-sectorial, specialized and initiative body established by the Deputy-prime Minister and Minister of Interior of the SR, the Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the SR. The role of the Steering Committee is to ensure coordination of the implementation of tasks related to the Conception of Migration Policy in the Slovak Republic and the Conception of Integration of Migrants including monitoring and tasks fulfilment overview. The Steering Committee is composed of permanent members who represent relevant state ministries, and ad-hoc members who might be invited to joint the sessions of the Steering Committee according to the need and represent different state, nongovernmental or other professional institutions/organizations. Therefore, an ad-hoc member might be also a representative from academic, scientific or research institute(s) active in the field of migration and integration of foreigners and might be consulted in relation to the development of migration policy, if necessary.</p> <p>2.)This might include state as well as non-state institutes, research institutes etc. which are active in the respective fields.</p>
	Slovenia	Yes	<p>The Ministry of the Interior as the primary policy maker in the field of migration and asylum consults different institutions, active in this field.</p> <p>The MOI engages research institutions and independent researchers in researching specific areas of the migration and considers the conclusions when developing policies. In the process of developing policies, MOI also engages different NGOs, active in the field of asylum and migration, as well as UNHCR, which take an active role in drafting of the policies.</p>
	Spain	Yes	Spanish legislation does not contemplate the possibility for the participation of academia in the realm of policy-development concerning immigration. Nevertheless, there is participation on behalf of:

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Autonomous Communities and local authorities, through the Council for Immigration Policy (tacitly substituted, at the moment, by the Sectoral Immigration Conference); - social agents through the Tripartite Labour Commission on Immigration –which acts as a discussion body among the General Administration of the State–, the most representative nationwide trade union and employers’ organisations for matters having to do with the management of migratory flows, - the Forum for the Social Integration of Immigrants, the Government’s consultative, information and advisory body on matters related with the integration of immigrants. Its aim is to serve as a channel for participation and dialogue to jointly seek solutions required by the immigrant population, together with other organisations and institutions. Its composition is tripartite and balanced, representing the Public Administration, migrant and refugee associations, and social support organisations, among which are included the most representative trade union and business associations. Conferral with this consultative body is statutory for any draft law or the design of any policies related with the integration of the immigrant population. - Ministerial departments whose activity impacts this area of immigration, through the Inter-Ministerial Commission for Alien Affairs.
	Sweden	Yes	<p>1. There are regular contacts at official level as well as political level, and seminars are held as well as various benchmarking made. Information is acquired and obtained within each area of responsibility (see the EMN study on Organisation of Asylum and Migration Policies in the EU Member States for further information on the Swedish system.)</p> <p>2. The government and the Parliament’s Inquire Service may engage an expert for a specific assignment/commission – for instance a Professor at an Academic Institute with special qualifications and experience in a specific subject matter of relevance for a inquiry related to the development of a particular State Policy. University Institutions and various other organizations may furthermore be formal referral institutions in an inquiry/investigation process. These institutions and organizations do however</p>

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			not have any formal position to influence the migration policy as such.
	United Kingdom	Yes	<p>UKBA Knowledge Management strategy The 2008 review of policy and strategic capabilities in UK Border Agency recommended that a knowledge management function should be established to underpin strategy and policy development and frontline delivery, including commissioning, coordination and storage of knowledge for the Agency, to provide a comprehensive and accessible multi-disciplinary evidence base. This aims to bring together research and analysis on borders and immigration. As part of this a knowledge management network has been established which brings together analysts from a number of disciplines: social researchers, statisticians, economists and other analysts.</p> <p>ARK Analysis, Research and Knowledge Management is part of the UKBA and is responsible for providing social research to inform policy and operational development</p> <p>EMN Comparative data from the European Migration Network is used in order to contextualise policy and practice, and helps the Civil Service identify and learn from best practice.</p> <p>MAC The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) is an independent, non-governmental, non-departmental public body established April 2007. The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) provides independent, transparent and evidence-based advice to government on where labour market shortages exist that can sensibly be filled by migration. It will underpin the new points based system for migration to the United Kingdom by advising on which occupations should be designated as shortage occupations. The Government may, from time to time, also ask the MAC to advise on other matters relating to migration.</p> <p>APCI Advisory Panel on Country Information (APCI): The Home Office produces information about conditions in asylum seekers' countries of origin for use by caseworkers and others involved in processing asylum applications. APCI is a panel made up of individuals and organisations operating in the country information and / or the refugee fields. The APCI panel exists in order to review and provide advice about the country of origin information material produced by the Home Office, to help ensure that it is as accurate, balanced, impartial and up to date as possible.</p> <p>Stakeholder Management Team The Stakeholder Management Team within UKBA are responsible for</p>

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			<p>external and internal stakeholder engagement in the area of considering foreign national prisoners for deportation. The team informs internal and external audiences of the processes and procedures and communicating changes both to external audiences and internally.</p> <p>Other government departments The Cross Government Migration Research Network will develop a cross government research programme. This programme aims to reduce overlap and, where relevant, work together on common knowledge gaps including pooling resources to maximise value for money.</p> <p>The cross government migration research group will report to the cross government Migration Directors group.</p> <p>The main themes of interest to OGDs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Department of Communities and Local Government: building the knowledge base on drivers of migration, including impact of the economic downturn on migration and drivers of international migration by occupational category and region.· Foreign and Commonwealth Office: effects of the economic downturn, increasing knowledge of factors influencing returns and illegal migration from both a country specific (eg India) and more general generic viewpoint (eg factors which shape irregular migrants decisions, particularly decisions to return to their countries of origin).· Department for International Development: part fund a five year programme at the Development Research Centre, University of Sussex. This work monitors the causes and consequences of migration, examining links between migration and other factors. They are also carrying out a scoping study to explore how best to monitor the impact of UK migration policy on development.· Department for Business Innovation and Skills: impacts of migration on the UK labour market, including employment rates, retention rates and recruitment rates for UK nationals, EEA nationals and non-EEA nationals from 1994-2008; and the regional impact of migration.· Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills : skill levels of migrants now leaving the UK and the gaps this creates for the UK labour market; how to make the best use of migrants underemployed / not making best use of their skills and qualifications in the UK.
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			<p>Migration research</p> <p>Knowledge Management Network members attend a number of international migration conferences (including Metropolis, IMISCOE) and feed these back into UKBA business. Knowledge Management Network members also liaise with researchers in the main UK university migration departments and migration research contractors. Where relevant, KM Network members review academic research proposals and link up policy, operations and academics for research.</p> <p>NGOs</p> <p>Biannual meetings with researchers in a number of NGOs take place to share information on forthcoming research, to explore common research themes and to develop ways of working together.</p> <p>Research funders</p> <p>Regular meetings are now taking place with the Barrow Cadbury Trust and ESRC to explore common migration research themes and to develop ways of working together. HOSDB are supporting EPSRC's programme of research with universities into cargo screening.</p>
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