



EMN Ad-Hoc Query on Ad-Hoc Query on consultative/advisory bodies on migration issues

Requested by Barbara ORLOFF on 12th July 2016

Miscellaneous

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom, Norway (20 in total)

Disclaimer:

The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.

Background information:

Estonia is currently analyzing the possibility of establishing a consultative/advisory body on migration issues. The aim of the body would be to provide policy makers with advice on migration issues, to assess regularly the attainment of migration policy objectives and to issue policy recommendations. The consultative body would most probably comprise of experts, representative of universities and relevant social partners. We would therefore like to gather information from other Member States experience and practices and kindly ask to answer the following questions:

Questions

1. Does your MS have a consultative/advisory body on migration issues (Yes/No)?
2. If yes: a) What are its purpose and activities? b) What aspects of the migration does the consultative/advisory body deal with? (e.g. legal migration, international protection, irregular migration or other)? c) What topics and questions do they discuss and how is the agenda set (own initiative, upon request from a Member or Government, any other)? d) Who are its Members (including number of Members) and how are they appointed/chosen? e) What are its rules of procedure (structure, frequency of meetings, form of meetings)? f) How is the body financed?

Responses

	Country	Wider Dissemination	Response
	Austria	No	
	Belgium	Yes	<p>1. Yes, there are several advisory bodies on migration issues in Belgium (but not always used in practice, see below). Art. 31 of the Immigration Act of 1980 mentions the creation of an Advisory Council on foreigners (Conseil Consultatif des Etrangers / Raad van Advies voor Vreemdelingen), responsible for providing advice on all legislative proposals and decrees on the entry, residence, settlement and removal of foreign nationals brought before it by the President of one of the two legislative houses or by one of the Community or Regional Parliaments or the United College of the Common Community Commission. Article 31 also stipulates that the Ministers can consult the Advisory Body on any general question related to the above mentioned issues. The</p>

Advisory Council can also at its own initiative provide advice on these issues to the legislative houses, the Parliaments of the Communities or Regions, the United College of the Common Community Commission or the Ministers. Art. 31 mentions that the Council is composed of representatives of the Ministers of the Interior, Employment and Labour, Foreign Affairs, Middle Classes, Cooperation and Development, of members of the Governments of the Communities and the Regions who have culture, education, employment and labour within their competence, and of Belgian and foreign representatives of organisations that defend the interests of foreign workers and student organisations. However, in practice, this advisory body has not met for many years. There is also an Advisory Council on the employment of foreign workers (Conseil Consultatif pour l'occupation des travailleurs Etrangers / Adviraad over de tewerkstelling van buitenlandse werknemers). See details in the answer to question 2. Furthermore, there is an Advisory Commission on foreigners (Commission Consultative des Etrangers / Commissie van Advies voor Vreemdelingen). See details in the answer to question 2.

2. ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN WORKERS The Advisory Council on the employment of foreign workers has to provide an advice to the competent Minister on new regulations or changes in regulations regarding the employment of foreign workers. It is mandatory for the Minister to request this advice, except in urgent cases (art. 19 of the law of 30 April 1999). Furthermore, a specific working group called a technical committee can also sometimes meet to discuss more technical/practical issues, mostly in order to ensure a uniform interpretation of the regulations regarding the employment of foreign workers. This technical committee is composed of representatives of the concerned federal and regional administrations. Following the Sixth State reform, which transferred a large set of competences from the federal level to the Communities and the Regions (including labour migration policy), the role of the Advisory Council is likely to evolve. The Advisory Council last met on 9 June 2016, to discuss the transposition of the Single Permit Directive and the division of competences regarding access to the labour market following the 6th State Reform. The Advisory Council on the employment of foreign workers is composed of the following members (art. 3 of the Royal Decree of 16 April 1992) : - A President - A Vice-President - 9 members nominated from the organisations most representative of workers - 9 members nominated from the organisations most representative of employers - Members representing the Ministers who are responsible for Economy, Foreign Affairs, Justice, the Interior, Social Affairs, Employment and Labour (1 member per Minister) - 3 members nominated by the different Regions (Flanders, Wallonia and Brussels) and 1 member

		<p>nominated by the German-speaking Community - 1 member representing Myria- the Federal migration Centre (observer status). An alternate member is also nominated for each of the effective members of the Council. The Advisory Council can request the assistance of experts who are not members of the Council. The members are nominated by a Royal Decree for a period of 6 years (renewable). For each meeting of the Advisory Council on the employment of foreign workers, minutes and an advice are drafted. This advice is approved by the members and sent to the authorities (when not all the members agree, the advice mentions that the opinion is divided). In principle, the advice of the Council is public. The Advisory Council is publicly funded. ADVISORY COMMISSION ON FOREIGNERS As stipulated in art. 32 and 20 of the Immigration Act, the Advisory Commission on foreigners has to provide an advice to the competent Minister in certain specific cases as stipulated in the Immigration Act or by particular provisions (for example, mandatory to require a non-binding advice of the Commission for certain removal decisions of certain foreigners with permanent residence permits/settlement). Additionally, the Minister can also request an optional advice from the Commission before taking any other decision regarding a foreigner (e.g. this was the case for certain applications for regularization). The Advisory Commission gives advice on individual cases, not policy. However, it is worth mentioning that in July 2016 - the Belgian Council of Ministers approved a proposal which abolishes the mandatory advice of the Commission for certain removal decisions. The Advisory Commission on foreigners is composed of the following members (art. 33 of the Immigration Act): - 2 magistrates (one French-speaking, one Dutch-speaking) - 2 lawyers (one French-speaking, one Dutch-speaking) - Representatives of organizations defending the rights of foreigners. Alternate members are also nominated (for possible replacements). The members of the Commission are nominated by Royal Decree for a period of 3 years (renewable). Articles 34 to 39 of the Immigration Act as well as the Royal Decree of 28 July 1981 provide details on the rules of procedure of the Advisory Commission on foreigners. The Advisory Commission convenes at the request of the president of the Commission, who sets the date, time and the agenda. The Commission holds meetings with 3 members: the magistrate who acts as the President the lawyer (depending on the language) and a person chosen by the foreigner among the other members of the Commission. A representative from the Immigration Office can participate in the meetings, but not the deliberations. The foreigner can choose a lawyer to assist/ represent him. At least 15 days before the hearing, the foreigner is invited to attend it. The members of the Commission, the foreigner or the lawyer who assists/ represents him can look at the files 8 working days before the hearing. The procedure before the Commission is oral, in French or</p>
--	--	--

			<p>in Dutch. Witnesses can be heard by the Commission. The reasoned opinion of the Commission is notified to the Minister and the foreigner (and his lawyer).</p>
	<p>Croatia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Yes. Croatian government has established two consultative bodies that handle migration issues, both within national authorities.</p> <p>2. On the 16th July 2015 Government has appointed the Interdepartmental Working Group to implement decisions about resettlement and relocation of third country nationals or stateless persons eligible for approval of international protection. The tasks of the Interdepartmental Working Group (IWG) are : - Establishing criteria for resettlement and relocation to Croatia persons to be included in the European program relocation and resettlement of third country nationals or stateless persons who meet the conditions for approval of international protection (hereinafter: the Program) - Ensuring free entry and transport to the Republic of Croatia, - Development of the Operational Plan for the persons to be resettled or relocated, - Coordination, systematic monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the Operational Plan, cooperation and exchange of information with the ministries and other government bodies, organizations and institutions. - Preparing proposals of financial impacts to ensure the necessary financial resources from 2016 to the full implementation of the Program. For the Interdepartmental Working Group, organizational, administrative and technical tasks are performed by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. The Interdepartmental Working Group appointed members are from: 1st Assistant Minister in the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, responsible for European Affairs - co-chair of the IWG, 2nd Assistant Minister in the Ministry of the Interior, in charge of the asylum and migration - co-chair of the IWG, The third one member and one deputy member from the Ministry of Finance, The fourth one member and one deputy member from the Ministry of Interior, One member and one deputy member from the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, One member and one deputy member from the Ministry of Social Policy and Youth, One member and one deputy member from the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, One member and one deputy member from the Ministry of Labour and Pension System, One member and one deputy member from the Ministry of Health, One member and one deputy member from the Ministry of Construction and Physical Planning, One member and one deputy member of the State Office for State Property Management, One member and one deputy member of the National Office for reconstruction and housing, One member and one deputy member from the Office for Human and minority rights. The</p>

			<p>work of the IWG, if necessary, can include other state bodies. The second consultative body that advise on migration issues is a The Standing Committee on the implementation of the integration of foreigners into Croatian society. The role of this Committee is an effective implementation of the integration policy measures identified for the removal of obstacles to the exercise individual rights in the field of integration of foreigners. Director of the Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities was appointed as a president of the Standing Committee, while members include, one representative of the relevant authorities responsible for the area of education, health, social welfare, labour and employment, culture, housing, Minister of Interior, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds and one representative of the State Office for Croats outside the Croatian. The obligation of the Standing Committee is to meet twice a year and more often if necessary. Furthermore, if necessary, the Standing Committee may appoint an ad hoc working group to solve specific problems related to the integration of foreigners in the Croatian society, in which part take experts of relevant bodies and at the operational level representatives of the local and regional (Regional) governments and civil society organizations could take a part.</p>
	Czech Republic	Yes	<p>1. YES</p> <p>2. see attachment</p>
	Estonia	Yes	<p>1. No, at the moment Estonia does not have a formal advisory body on migration matters, however is considering setting up a Consultative Council.</p> <p>2. N/A</p>
	Finland	Yes	<p>1. Yes. Finland has various consultative bodies that handle migration issues, both within national authorities and the civil society.</p> <p>2. The Finnish Immigration Service provides information services in support of political decision making and for national and international cooperation. The Finnish Immigration Service Advisory Board is composed of representatives of both authorities and different organisations, including various labour organisations, the Church Council, Finnish League for Human Rights, The Finnish Red Cross</p>

			<p>and the Office of the Non-Discrimination Ombudsman. The chair of the Advisory Board is Director-General of the Finnish Immigration Service. The task of the Advisory Board is to review the courses of development and policies of Finnish Immigration Service operations, put forward relevant initiatives, and to enable the Finnish Immigration Service to exploit the expertise of Advisory Board members in the organisation and development of service provision. Furthermore, the Government appoints the Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations (ETNO) for a four-year term. The Advisory Board works under the auspices of the Ministry of Justice. The Board brings together migration experts from national, regional and local levels ranging from public officials to civil society representatives. It also forms a network of experts on migration, integration and equality which promotes dialogue between different population groups. The Advisory Board engages in dialogue with immigrants, ethnic, cultural and religious minorities, public authorities, political parties and NGOs. Through cooperation and discussion, the aim is to build trust and an open Finland. There are also different organisations, such as IOM, UNHCR, Save The Children and the Refugee Advice Center, as well as various academics researching immigration issues, that are consulted while making migration policies. The Society for the Study of Ethnic Relations and International Migration (ETMU) is a multidisciplinary association of Finnish researchers, established to promote research in this field in Finland. Also organisations such as Kehys (a platform for NGOs that share an interest in the EU development cooperation and policy) and the Finnish League for Human Rights (FLHR) do advocacy work and research in fields related to migration issues.</p>
	France	Yes	<p>1. France does not have any consultative/advisory body on migration issues. However, major reforms on migration policies are discussed during ad hoc consultations. Thus, in 2013 when the reflection on what has become the law of 7 March 2016 started and for the national concertation on the asylum reform launched in July 2014 (before the Law of 29 July 2015), consultations were conducted with the private sector / professionals (employers and trade unions) or academics on attractiveness or with associations on alternatives to detention.</p> <p>2. N/A</p>
	Germany	Yes	<p>1. No, not in a narrower sense. There is currently no permanent, government-appointed advisory body on migration issues in place. Germany does historically have experience with temporary advisory</p>

			<p>bodies on migration issues. In 2000, the government (Interior Ministry) established the so-called Independent Immigration Commission. The commission was established in the run-up to the Immigration Act (2005) and was tasked to develop detailed recommendations for Germany's future immigration policy. In accordance with its mandate, the commission looked at migration taking a holistic approach (considering legal migration, asylum, family reunification, immigration of repatriates, irregular migration, integration) and identified legislative, administrative and organizational measures necessary to regulate immigration. The Commission's members were appointed by the Ministry of the Interior. The commission was chaired by the then Member of Parliament Prof. Dr. Rita Süssmuth and comprised of 21 members from various political, scientific and civil society fields. For a full list of members (p. 2) and the commission's work structure (p. 289) see the commission's final report in EN (2001): http://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/Broschueren/Structuring_Immigration_-_Fostering_Id_14625_en.pdf?__blob=publicationFile More recent efforts focused on ensuring for a coherent approach to migration management within the government. In October 2014, an inter-ministerial Working Group on International Migration was established at State-Secretary level. The group was lead jointly by Federal Foreign Office and Federal Ministry of the Interior and comprised all ministries relevant to international migration issues (Economic Cooperation and Development, Labour and Social Affairs, Economic Affairs and Energy, Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration etc.). The group was tasked to establish a closer coordination between the ministries on goals, aims and necessities of modern migration management in order to allow for a coherent overall approach. The work took place in five sub-working groups (relations with third countries and international forums, irregular migration, migration and development, refugee protection, legal migration). Due to challenges within the refugee crisis, the working group has been suspended in the autumn of 2015.</p> <p>2. n/a</p>
	Hungary	Yes	<p>1. YES</p> <p>2. A working group on migration headed by Justice Minister has been set up on June 2016 within the Government with the participation of the Ministry of Interior and the Prime Minister's Office. The three ministers taking part in the work of the working group are required to prepare reports for the cabinet</p>

			meeting regarding the latest situation related to the legislative regulation of immigration in the context of the European Union and Hungary. The working group on migration is tasked with summarising and preparing decisions on all aspects of migration. The Working Group looks into the EU's relevant legislative process in the field of border management and asylum. The Working Group comprised of politicians and experts from the Ministries involved.
	Italy	Yes	<p>1. No (see answer 2)</p> <p>2. Italy does not have a real consultative/advisory body on migration issues. The Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration of the Ministry of the Interior has staff with long experience in this area. However, the work of the Department in the area of immigration and asylum also involves the following organisations: the Department of Public Security of the Ministry of the Interior; all Territorial Government Offices (Prefectures); other Ministries, such as the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education, University and Research; and other levels of Government, such as Regions and local authorities. In particular, Municipalities are strongly involved, together with third-sector organisations, in second-line reception projects aimed at the integration of TCNs, especially of applicants for and beneficiaries of international protection. Furthermore, for specific aims, the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration may make conventions with external parties, which are usually identified by public selection procedures. Such parties are research bodies and private organisations with proven experience in the area of immigration and asylum that may provide technical assistance (such as, for instance, the technical management of the AMIF) or specific or scientific support (such as the recent monitoring of reception facilities). At any rate, these are well-defined sectoral activities that support the work of the Ministry of the Interior, which ultimately remains responsible for the entire area of immigration and asylum.</p>
	Latvia	Yes	<p>1. No, Latvia does not have a formal advisory body and it is not planned to establish one in the nearest future.</p> <p>2. N/A</p>

	Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. No, Lithuania does not have such a consultative/advisory body.</p> <p>2. N/A</p>
	Luxembourg	Yes	<p>1. Yes.</p> <p>2. a. The National Council for Foreigners (CNE) is an advisory body in charge of studying issues relating to foreigners and their integration. It acts either on its own initiative or at the Government's request. On all projects for which the Government considers that the advice of the CNE is needed, the CNE gives its opinion within the deadline fixed by the Government. The CNE can submit to the Government any proposal for improving the situation of foreigners and their families in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. It submits to the Government an annual report on the integration of foreigners in Luxembourg . b. The CNE has established various committees and divisions to help carry out its mission: i the cross-border workers' committee i the work and social affairs' committee i the communal committee on advisory bodies for integration i the equal opportunities and diversity commission i the commission on education i the refugees' commission c. See answer to question 2.a. d. The CNE has 34 members. It is composed by: 1) 22 representatives of foreigners, from which 15 represent EU citizens and 7 represent third-country nationals; 2) 1 representative of refugees; 3) 1 representative of the Syvicol (Luxembourg inter-municipality trade union); 4) 4 representatives of employers' organisations, 5) 4 representatives of the main trade unions; and 6) 2 representatives of civil society. There are also 34 deputy members appointed. The members of the council are elected for 5 years by the Minister of Family and Integration at the proposition of: 1) The Government in regards the representative of the refugees and the representatives of civil society; 2) The employers organisations for their members; 3) The trade unions for their representatives; 4) Associations of foreigners which are legally established and which have a social, cultural or sportive activity as well as associations which work primarily in favour of foreigners, which are registered with OLAI. The Minister for Family and Integration and the director of the Luxembourg Reception and Integration Agency (OLAI) can attend the council's meetings. The President and Vice-President of the National Council for Foreigners are elected by majority rule and their terms are renewable. e) The council shall meet at least three times per year. The president must summon the council at the request of the Minister or if six of its members request it. The meetings of the council are not public. A public servant of the</p>

			<p>OLAI will act as the secretary of the council during the meetings. The modalities of deliberation, functioning, voting and replacement of its members are determined by internal rules which are approved by the Minister. f) The CNE is financed by the budget of the Ministry of Family, Integration and the Greater Region.</p>
	<p>Netherlands</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Yes, the Advisory Committee on Migration Affairs (Adviescommissie voor Vreemdelingenzaken â ACVZ). See https://acvz.org/en/</p> <p>2. a) The Advisory Committee on Migration Affairs is an independent committee that provides solicited and unsolicited advice to the Dutch Government and the Dutch Parliament on immigration law and policy. The Advisory Committee on Migration Affairs is a permanent body and was installed on November 28th, 2001 as a result of the Aliens Act 2000. The Committee provides advice on 1) Dutch immigration policy and 2) legislative proposals. In the area of immigration policy the Committee assesses the effectiveness and efficiency of (parts of) the Dutch immigration policy and makes suggestions for improvement. Moreover, the Committee analyses (potential) future developments and points out possible problems. Once the Committee has issued an advice, the responsible minister or secretary of state is required to publish a reaction to the advice within three months. In addition to policy advice, the Committee provides advice on legislative proposals concerning the two main immigration laws in the Netherlands; the Aliens Act 2000 and the Aliens Decree 2000. The minister responsible for the legislative changes is obliged to consult the Committee. It is up to the Committee to decide whether to formulate an advise or not. The reports of the Committee are sent to the Parliament together with the legislative proposal. b) The Committee covers a wide range of immigration topics, including regular and irregular migration. The work programme for 2016 contains subjects as: legal ways of accessing the EU, reception conditions for asylum seekers in the Netherlands, policy on suspected war criminals (1F), effectiveness of the Dutch return policy, and a foresight exercise concerning migration in 2030. c) The topics on which the Committee intends to provide advice are laid down in its annual work programme. The Committee collects input for its annual work programme from a variety of stakeholders in the area of immigration policy (e.g. government agencies, NGOs, research institutes). In addition, the Ministry of Security and Justice, which is responsible for immigration policy in the Netherlands, suggests topics for the Committee's work programme. Based on the input received the Committee drafts a work programme, which is then discussed with the ministry.</p>

			<p>It should be noted that the final decision whether to advice on a certain topic or not, lays with the Committee. Independently of the work programme, the Ministry can ask the Committee to provide advice throughout the whole year. The Committee has not the capacity to provide advice on all suggested topics. When selecting topics the following criteria are applied: Does the topic fall within the legal task of the Committee? Is the topic relevant for society and/or policy making? Does the advice add value (instead of duplicating work that has already been done)? Does the advice contribute to improving current policies and/or practices? Can the Committee deliver the envisaged results with its limited resources? d) The Committee has ten members, including the chair. The members are appointed by royal order, which is an official decision of the government. Members have different backgrounds; some come from academia, while others have worked in the public administration (e.g. ministries, agencies, judiciary). The Committee is supported by a secretariat of around ten employees. e) The Committee meets once a month to discuss the work activities of the different project groups. These groups consists of three to four members of the Committee (the sub-committee) and, usually, two employees of the secretariat. The project groups meet as often as necessary. If a specific expertise is required which is not available in the Committee or the secretariat, it is possible to add an external expert to the sub-committee. The sub-committee presents its reports in the plenary sessions. The decision process in these meetings is based on consensus of opinion. f) The Committee is financed by the Dutch government.</p>
	Portugal	Yes	<p>1. Yes.</p> <p>2. a) Its purpose and activities are: advise on the relevant legal acts projects for the rights of migrants; advise on issues related to public policies, cross-sectorial and relevant, particularly for social inclusion, citizenship and rights acquisition and integration of migrants; participate in the definition of measures and actions of immigration policies, formulating proposals for its promotion; advise on any detected obstacles to a speedy and effective response from the Public Administration to the problems of integration of migrants; advise on the issues put to it by the High Commission; approve the respective rules of procedure; perform any other duties assigned to it by law. b) Integration and legal migration. c) See answer to point a). The Council works in plenary session, in sections, and regular and special sessions. d) The Council for Migrations is composed by 19 entities. The following are part of it: a) The High Commission, who chairs it; b) A representative of each of the immigrant communities of</p>

			<p>Portuguese-speaking countries, designated by their associations, since the representativeness of these is recognized by ACM, PI; c) One representative from each of the other three most numerous immigrant communities not included in the preceding paragraph, designated by their associations, since the representativeness of these is recognized by ACM, IP; d) A representative of associations not affiliated to planned communities in b) and c), designated by their associations, since the representativeness of these is recognized by ACM, IP; e) Three representatives of the institutions to share or interest in the area of migration, appointed by the High Commission; f) A representative of the General Directorate of Arts; g) A representative of the General Directorate for Consular Affairs and Portuguese Communities; h) A representative of the General Directorate of Foreign Policy; i) A representative of the Immigration and Borders Service; j) A representative of the security forces; k) A representative of the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality; l) A representative of the General Directorate of Economic Activities; m) A representative of the Tourism Institute of Portugal; n) A representative of the General Directorate of Health; o) A representative of the General Directorate of Education; p) A representative of the General Directorate of Higher Education; q) A representative of the Employment and Vocational Training Institute, PI; r) A representative of the Authority for Working Conditions; s) A representative of the Social Security Institute, PI; t) A representative of the Regional Government; u) A representative of the Regional Government of Madeira; v) Two representatives of employers' organizations and two representatives of trade unions to sit on the Economic and Social Council; w) A representative of the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities; x) A representative of the Portuguese Communities Council; y) Two citizens of recognized merit, domestic or foreign, appointed by the High Commission.</p> <p>e) The Council works in plenary session, in sections, and regular and special sessions. The term of office of Board members lasts for three years, renewable for equal periods, and ceases when there is loss of the capacity of representative of the body that has appointed them. The performance of duties in the Council is unpaid f) It is financed by the State budget.</p>
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>1. Yes.</p> <p>2. a) What are its purpose and activities? In 2009, the Steering Committee for Migration and Integration of Foreigners was established. The Committee took over the duties of the Working Inter-Departmental Commission for Coordinating the Procedures Related to the Fulfilment of Tasks and Activities Resulting from the Migration Policy Strategy of the Slovak Republic. This Steering Committee is at the</p>

			<p>same time, responsible for the implementation of the Strategy of Foreigner Integration (at present the Integration Policy of the SR) and Migration Policy Strategy of the SR (at present Migration policy of the SR with the perspective until the year 2020). It is also responsible for the monitoring of the implementation of tasks arising from these strategies, for the coordination of activities of the individual ministries both at national level and in relation to the EU and other international organisations. On 30th November 2007, the expert Inter-Departmental Commission on Labour Migration and Integration of Migrants (MEKOMIC), which is also an advisory body to the Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, was established by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of SR. Its aim is to provide a platform so that the representatives of relevant state and non-state institutions, departments, organisations as well as independent experts could engage in a mutual exchange of information about their work, experience and needs in the field of migration and integration of foreigners living in the SR. Parallel with MEKOMIC, a coordination Working Inter-Departmental Commission for Coordinating the Procedures Related to the Fulfilment of Tasks and Activities Resulting from the Migration Policy Strategy of the Slovak Republic was created under the aegis of the Ministry of Interior of the SR. During an extraordinary meeting of the Council of the Slovak Republic for Human Rights, National Minorities and Gender Equality (October 15, 2015) a resolution no. 140 was adopted. Based on the resolution, the establishment of Council Working Group on the rights of refugees and migrants was determined. The WG shall prepare documents necessary for further work of the Council in the field of human rights of refugees and migrants. The first meeting of the WG was held on July 13, 2016. b) What aspects of the migration does the consultative/advisory body deal with? MEKOMIC deals mainly with issues related to the labour migration and integration. Steering Committee for migration and integration of foreigners and its expert working groups discuss the topics of legal migration, irregular migration, readmission and return, visas, asylum, integration of foreigners on migration and development. c) What topics and questions do they discuss and how is the agenda set (own initiative, upon request from a Member or Government, any other)? MEKOMIC is engaged in discussions on migration and integration policy of the SR. The themes are proposed and discussed according the needs. The agenda is proposed by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and family of the SR, any member of MEKOMIC may propose a new topic on the agenda, which is further approved by voting of its members. The Steering Committee for migration and integration of foreigners discusses the coordination of the tasks related to migration and integration policies and the activities of the expert working groups. The draft agenda is prepared by the committee secretariat in close cooperation with the</p>
--	--	--	--

			<p>members of the committee. The agenda of the expert working groups discussions (WG on legal migration, irregular migration, readmission and return, visas, asylum, integration of foreigners on migration and development) is elaborated by the head of each WG. d) Who are its Members (including number of Members) and how are they appointed/chosen? MEKOMIC comprises of the responsible state and private institutions, trade unions, organizations and experts. It consists of a chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members, which are appointed and dismissed by the chair. No final number of members is determined. The Steering Committee for Migration and Integration of Foreigners consists of a chair, first and second deputy chairs, secretary and other members of the committee â permanent and ad hoc including NGOs and IOs, appointed and dismissed by the Minister of Interior. The Council Working Group on the rights of refugees and migrants comprises of the representatives of the responsible ministries, NGOs, civil associations and ecclesial communities, dealing with supporting of refugees and migrants in Slovakia. The WG will invite representatives of communities of foreigners living in Slovakia as well. e) What are its rules of procedure (structure, frequency of meetings, form of meetings)? Meetings of MEKOMIC are convened by its chair as needed, but at least twice a year. The purpose of the meetings is to discuss the current issues related to the direction and activities of MEKOMIC. The Steering Committee for Migration and Integration of Foreigners convenes generally once every two months and further as needed. Six expert working groups (on legal migration, irregular migration, readmission and return, Visa, Asylum, Integration of foreigners, Migration and Development) meet as necessary, to effectively fulfill all their tasks and functions. f) How is the body financed? MEKOMIC meetings are financed from the budget of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and family of the SR. The activities of the Steering Committee for Migration and Integration of Foreigners are funded from the budget of the Ministry of Interior of the SR.</p>
	Slovenia	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We have no such body that would serve solely for the purpose of consultation. 2. n.a.
	Sweden	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes. Delmi, the Migration Studies Delegation, is a committee formed in November 2013 through a decision by the Swedish Government. Delmi initiates academic studies and provides research results in the field of migration as a basis for future migration policy decisions and in order to contribute to the public debate on migration. In addition to Delmi, the Swedish Government sometimes appoints expert

			<p>committees to study certain aspects of migration, asylum and integration. Compared to Delmi, such experts committees normally focus on a specific aspect, and their mandate is often connected to the preparation of a specific Government bill. Such ad-hoc committees normally operate within a given period of time, and they have a deadline to hand in the results of their work. Delmi has no end-date.</p> <p>2. a) Delmi initiates academic studies and provides research results in the field of migration as a basis for future migration policy decisions and in order to contribute to the public debate on migration. Delmi also organises seminars and conferences. b) Delmi deals with a great variety of topics, including legal migration, international protection, and irregular migration. Delmi has five main thematic fields: 1) Migration & development, 2) Labour market, 3) Diversity & Welfare, 4) Democracy, and 5) Institutions & laws. c) Delmi employs a principle of dual independence, which means that the Committee is independent from the Government, and also from the individual researchers it commissions to carry out Delmi studies. This also means that Delmi sets its own research agenda. It tries to respond to current policy needs, however. d) Delmi has six members, both academics and profiled experts from the policy sphere. They have been appointed by the Government. The day-to-day business of Delmi is run by a permanent secretariat, which currently consists of eight Delegation secretaries, some of which work part-time. e) For the exact rules of procedure, please see the Delmi mission and strategy documents at http://www.delmi.se/en/about-delmi#!/en/strategies-methods. The Committee meets several times a year to discuss and decide on applications for research Projects, thematic priorities and other strategic issues. The day-to-day business is run by a permanent Delegation Secretariat. f) Delmi is financed by the Swedish government. Some research projects can be co-funded by Delmi and other stakeholders.</p>
	<p>United Kingdom</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Yes, the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC).</p> <p>2. a) What are its purpose and activities? To offer independent, evidence-based advice to the government on migration issues. b) What aspects of the migration does the consultative/advisory body deal with? (e.g. legal migration, international protection, irregular migration or other)? Generally, the main focus is on work-related migration, though the MAC can be asked to look at other issues also. c) What topics and questions do they discuss and how is the agenda set (own initiative, upon request from a Member or Government, any other)? The MAC is commissioned by the government to look into a</p>

			<p>particular issue or set of issues. The MAC has previously been asked to provide advice on a wide range of immigration issues such as the design of the Points Based System (PBS) for managed migration. This includes annual limits, low-skilled migration into the UK and the routes used by investors and entrepreneurs. The MAC is also asked to review occupations and job titles for inclusion on the shortage occupation list (SOL) and has recently completed a wider review of the whole work-related migration route (Tier 2). d) Who are its Members (including number of Members) and how are they appointed/chosen? There are four members and a chair, all chosen by fair and open competition overseen by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments. The members have tended to be labour market economists and migration experts. e) What are its rules of procedure (structure, frequency of meetings, form of meetings)? There is a framework document agreed between the MAC and the Home Office that sets out how the MAC will operate. This is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-office-and-migration-advisory-committee-framework-document. f) How is the body financed? The MAC is financed by a grant-in-aid from the Home Office</p>
	Norway	Yes	<p>1. Norway once had such a body, but it was disbanded in 2013. At present, Norway does not have any such body.</p> <p>2. N/A</p>