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2026.1 Specifics of the procedure for family reunification

**European Migration Network
Ad-hoc query**

February, 2026

AD-HOC QUERY ON 2026.1 SPECIFICS OF THE PROCEDURE FOR FAMILY REUNIFICATION

REQUESTED BY EMN NCP LUXEMBOURG ON 7 JANUARY 2026

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Exported for: Unrestricted Dissemination

Responses from: EMN NCP Austria, EMN NCP Belgium, EMN NCP Bulgaria, EMN NCP Croatia, EMN NCP Cyprus, EMN NCP Czech Republic, EMN NCP Estonia, EMN NCP Finland, EMN NCP France, EMN NCP Germany, EMN NCP Greece, EMN NCP Hungary, EMN NCP Ireland, EMN NCP Italy, EMN NCP Latvia, EMN NCP Lithuania, EMN NCP Luxembourg, EMN NCP Malta, EMN NCP Netherlands, EMN NCP Poland, EMN NCP Slovakia, EMN NCP Slovenia, EMN NCP Spain **(23 in total)**

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On behalf of EMN Bulgaria

Bulgaria has transposed the Family Reunification Directive (2003/86/EC) in the national legislation and more specifically in the Law on Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria and in its Implementing Rules. In accordance with Article 3 of the Directive, the Directive applies where the applicant for family reunification holds a residence permit issued by a Member State with a validity of one year or more and can reasonably expect to obtain the right of permanent residence if his or her family members are third-country nationals, regardless of their legal status.

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Article 5, para 3, stipulates that the application by the holder of the right to family reunification shall be submitted and examined while the family members reside outside the territory of the Member State in which the applicant for family reunification resides. As it comes to our practices, Bulgaria applies the following legal regime towards third-country nationals: Once the holder of the right of stay (the principal) has been granted with his/her right of residence (for instance up to 1 year), he/she is allowed to submit an application for family reunification. It is very often the case that his/her family members, having spent in Bulgaria up to 90 days while enjoying visa-free regime, are required to exit our country and apply for long-term visas from abroad (in order to be granted with a stay for longer periods). Afterwards and within the validity of their visas, the family members may come back to Bulgaria. They will obtain a right of residence with validity depending on the period of stay of the principal.

Against this background, Bulgaria is interested in knowing what are the practices applicable in other Member States in implementing the Family Reunification Directive (2003/86/EC) and more specifically as regards third-country nationals and their family members who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU.

WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

We would very much appreciate your responses by **30 January 2026**.

1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?
2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?
3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?


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4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.

5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.

6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?

RESPONSES

		Unrestricted Dissemination ?	
	EMN NCP Austria	Yes	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>In Austria, visa D are issued with a validity period of 6 months, or in exceptional cases with a validity period of up to 12 months (e.g. on the basis of an international agreement; Art. 20 para. 2 Aliens Police Act). For a planned stay in Austria for more than six months, a residence permit must be applied for (in accordance with the Settlement and Residence Act; see: https://www.bmeia.gv.at/en/travel-stay/entrance-and-residence-in-austria/visa).</p>


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			<p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>In Austria, in order to be able to submit a successful application for family reunification, it is essential to be a family member of a person lawfully residing in Austria (known as the “sponsor”).</p> <p>The group of eligible family members varies in scope depending on the legal basis for family reunification (see Ammann, A. and M. Stiller, 2025. Family reunification of third-country nationals in Austria under the Asylum Act and the Settlement and Residence Act, p. 16 and Annex 1). The specific residence permit held by the sponsor is thereby of secondary importance, since almost anyone residing lawfully in Austria on the basis of a residence permit or temporary residence permit (with the exception of persons with a “family member” residence permit) can act as a sponsor provided that they qualify as family members. The type of residence permit that family members receive will depend on the sponsor’s residence permit (see Ammann, A. and M. Stiller, 2025. Family reunification of third-country nationals in Austria under the Asylum Act and the Settlement and Residence Act, p. 17 and Annex 2).</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>In order for family reunification to take place in Austria, a number of requirements must be met, among others:</p> <p>The family member has accommodation that is considered customary for a family of a similar size in the local area (Art. 46 in conjunction with Art. 11 para. 2 subpara. 2 Settlement and Residence Act; Art. 35 para. 1 and 2 in conjunction with Art. 60 para. 2 subpara. 1 Asylum Act)The family member has health insurance that covers all risks and includes liability for</p>
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			<p>medical expenses in Austria (Art. 46 in conjunction with Art. 11 para. 2 subpara. 3 Settlement and Residence Act; Art. 35 para. 1 and 2 in conjunction with Art. 60 para. 2 subpara. 2 Asylum Act)The family member's stay will not result in a financial burden on a local authority (Art. 46 in conjunction with Art. 11 para. 2 subpara. 4 and para. 5 Settlement and Residence Act; Art. 35 para. 1 and 2 in conjunction with Art. 60 para. 2 subpara. 3 Asylum Act)For details and any exceptions, see Ammann, A. and M. Stiller, 2025. Family reunification of third-country nationals in Austria under the Asylum Act and the Settlement and Residence Act, p. 22.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>According to Art. 21 para. 1 of the Settlement and Residence Act, initial applications (including those for family reunification) must be submitted to the locally competent professional representation authority abroad before entering Austria. The decision must be awaited abroad. However, pursuant to Art. 21 para. 2 subpara. 5 of the Settlement and Residence Act, aliens who are entitled to visa-free entry, among others, are entitled to submit an application in Austria after lawful entry and during their lawful stay.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>N/a.</p>
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			<p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/a.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Belgium</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>NO. In certain cases, persons who enjoy visa free travel to Belgium can apply for family reunification without needing a long-term visa, if they submit a complete file for their application for family reunification before their right to short-stay expires (see Art. 12bis §1, paragraph 2, Law of 15 December 1980 (the Immigration Law); and Art. 26/2 §1 of the Royal Decree of 8 October 1981).</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>In principle, family members should apply for family reunification abroad at the diplomatic or consular post (article 12bis§1, 1st paragraph). Article 12bis §1 paragraph 2 of the Immigration Law and Article 26/2 §1 of the Royal Decree of 8 October 1981 facilitates possibilities for family members on the Belgian territory to submit their application for family reunification in Belgium. These cases include, for example, if the family already has a right to reside in Belgium and submits all the required documents before this right to reside ends. Hence, they can apply for family reunification in Belgium, to reunite with their sponsor, if their file is complete before their right to reside in Belgium expires.</p>

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			<p>The circumstances in which the family member is entitled to apply on the Belgian territory, depend on the type of residence permit of the sponsor (limited stay or unlimited stay). See question 5 for an overview.</p> <p>In Belgium, the sponsor him/herself is never allowed to apply for family reunification for its family member. It is always the family member-applicant that is required to apply for family reunification.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>The sponsor and the family member must - in general - meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Pay administrative fee for the processing of the applicationProvide Identification document (valid passport)Provide a copy of residence permit of the sponsorProof of ageProof of family bondProof of sufficient incomeProof of decent housingProof of health insuranceMedical certificateExtract from criminal records / Certificate of good conduct (for applicants over 18) <p>Depending on the situation, also other requirements are applicable. For example, registered partners need to demonstrate durable and stable relationship, minor children should demonstrate that they are not married, sponsors should demonstrate they have parental authority over the minor children, they need authorization from the other parent if the other parent is not travelling with them, etc.</p>
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			<p>In some situations, waiting periods before being able to apply for family reunification are applicable.</p> <p>Due to recent legislative changes implemented through the law of 18 July 2025, the material requirements are defined differently depending on whether the sponsor obtained their long-term residence permit prior to or after 18 August 2025. Applicable waiting periods, and age conditions, have also been adapted. The transition period ends in August 2027, after which the new material requirements will apply to all applicants for family reunification, regardless of when the sponsor obtained their long-term residence status.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>NO. Persons who enjoy visa free travel to Belgium can travel to Belgium and file their application for family reunification at a Belgian municipality, but they are not required to do so. They can also apply for family reunification at a Belgian Diplomatic post in their country of residence.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>YES. Family members who wish to reunite with a sponsor in Belgium are exempt from the requirement to have a long-term visa in one of the following cases: 1/ The sponsor has a permanent residence permit in Belgium: On the basis of Article 5(3), second subparagraph of Directive 2003/86/EC, Member States</p>
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			<p>have a wide margin of discretion to determine the cases in which it is “appropriate” for an application for family reunification to be submitted from the territory of the Member State. Family members of a third-country national must therefore, in principle, submit their application for family reunification from abroad, to the Belgian diplomatic mission responsible for their place of residence or stay abroad. By way of exception, the Immigration Law provides that the application may be submitted from Belgian territory if the family member is in one of the situations listed in Article 12bis, §1, second paragraph of the Immigration Law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1° the family member has already been admitted or authorised to stay for more than three months in another capacity;2° the family member is authorised to stay for a maximum of three months and is either:<ul style="list-style-type: none">exempt from the visa requirement; orholds a residence permit from an EU Member State that allows free movement within the European Union; orholds a visa for the purpose of entering into marriage or partnership (in Belgium) and the marriage/legal cohabitation was effectively concluded before the end of the visa's period of validity;3° the family member is in exceptional circumstances that prevent him from returning to his country of origin;4° the family member is an accompanying family member within the meaning of Article 10, § 1, first paragraph, 4° of the Immigration Law (i.e. accompanying a beneficiary of international protection or stateless person);5° the family member is authorised to stay for a maximum of three months and is the parent of an unaccompanied minor (recognized as a refugee or residence on basis of statelessness) or the minor child/adult disabled child of a foreign national with unlimited residence, or of foreign national recognized as a refugee or with residence on basis of statelessness. <p>2/ The sponsor has a temporary residence permit in Belgium: In this situation too, an application for family reunification must in principle be submitted</p>
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			<p>abroad. By way of exception, the application may be submitted from Belgian territory if the family member is in one of the situations listed in Article 26/2, §1 of the Royal Decree of 8 October 1981, namely:</p> <p>1° the family member has already been admitted or authorised to stay for more than three months in another capacity;</p> <p>2° the family member is authorised to stay for a maximum of three months and is either: exempt from the visa requirement; or holds a residence permit from an EU Member State that allows free movement within the European Union; or holds a visa for the purpose of entering into marriage or partnership in Belgium and the marriage/legal cohabitation was effectively concluded before the expiry of the visa; 3° the family member is authorised to stay for a maximum of three months and is a minor child;</p> <p>The application may also be submitted from Belgian territory if the family member is in exceptional circumstances that prevent him or her from returning to the country of origin (Art. 26/2/1, §1 Royal Decree of 1981).</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>The legal basis can be found in Belgian national legislation (see legal provisions above). The Family Reunification Directive allows for restrictions on certain elements, notably with regard to the requirement for nationals who enjoy visa free travel to Belgium and third-country nationals with a residence permit in another EU Member State to submit their family reunification application from abroad.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Bulgaria</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-</p>

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			<p>term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>Yes. Third-country nationals are required to be in possession of long-term visas.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>Third-country nationals who have been granted the right of residence for at least 1 year (excluding family members of Blue card holders and intra-corporate transferees).</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>The general requirements are as follows: valid personal documents, proof of sufficient financial resources, accommodation, health insurance, certificate for clear criminal record and certificate proving family ties.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>No. Third-country nationals who have stayed for up to 90 days enjoying visa free regime but wish to reside for a longer period are required to leave the territory of Bulgaria and apply for long-term visas from abroad.</p>
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			<p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>As a general rule, Bulgaria requires third-country nationals to be in possession of a visa. However, there are very rare exemptions. These apply only to third-country nationals of Bulgarian origin.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>It is provided for in the national legislation.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Croatia</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>No, a third-country national who does not require a visa to enter the Republic of Croatia does not need a long-term visa, but can apply for temporary residence in the Republic of Croatia for the duration of the short-term stay (up to 90 days in any 180-day period) or at the DM/KU of the Republic of Croatia abroad. If he/she applies for a temporary residence permit before the expiry of the short-term stay, he/she can remain in the Republic of Croatia until the decision on the application becomes enforceable.</p>

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			<p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>Temporary residence for the purpose of family reunification may be granted to a third-country national who meets the general conditions for granting temporary residence and who is a close family member of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. a Croatian citizen2. a third-country national who has been granted long-term residence3. a third-country national who has been granted permanent residence4. a third-country national who has been granted temporary residence5. a third-country national who has been granted asylum or subsidiary protection. <p>Exceptionally, a family member of a third-country national residing in the Republic of Croatia on the basis of a valid residence and work permit issued on the basis of the opinion of the Croatian Employment Service may be granted temporary residence for the purpose of family reunification only if the third-country national with whom family reunification is sought has had temporary residence granted for at least one year continuously.</p> <p>However, temporary residence may be granted immediately to a minor child for the purpose of family reunification, if both parents or a single parent have residence and work permits issued on the basis of the opinion of the Croatian Employment Service.</p> <p>Temporary residence for the purpose of family reunification will not be granted to a family member of a third-country national who, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• has been granted temporary residence as a posted worker from another EEA Member State or Switzerland, for a period exceeding 90 days in any 180-day period• has been granted temporary residence for some other purpose (e.g. for the use of real estate)• has been issued a residence and work permit for seasonal work• has been issued a residence and work permit as a service provider on behalf of or for a
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			<p>foreign employer not established in an EEA Member State.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>A family member seeking family reunification with a third-country national in the Republic of Croatia must meet the general conditions for granting temporary residence, such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. must justify the purpose of temporary residence - e.g. in the case of spouses by submitting a marriage certificate,2. must have a valid foreign travel document,3. must have sufficient means of support,4. must have health insurance,5. with the application for granting the first temporary residence, proof must be attached that he/she has not been convicted by a final judgment for criminal offences from his/her home country or the country in which he/she resided for more than a year immediately before arriving in the Republic of Croatia,6. must not have a entry ban or an alert issued in the SIS for entry ban,7. must not pose a threat to public order, national security or public health. <p>A close family member of a third-country national who has been granted asylum or subsidiary protection does not have to provide proof of health insurance and proof of secured means of support.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p>
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			<p>No, if a third-country national does not require a visa to enter the Republic of Croatia, the application for family reunification can be submitted from the territory of the Republic of Croatia, or at a diplomatic mission or consular office of the Republic of Croatia.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>In the Republic of Croatia, a long-term visa is not required for the purpose of family reunification. A long-term visa is issued as a residence permit for up to 30 days in the territory of the Republic of Croatia if a third-country national has been granted temporary residence (including family reunification) and if he or she requires a short-term visa to enter the Republic of Croatia.</p> <p>There are certain exceptions when an application for family reunification can be submitted in the Republic of Croatia, although a third-country national seeking family reunification requires a visa (e.g. if he or she is a close family member of a Croatian citizen, if he or she is a family member of an "EU Blue Card" holder, if he or she is a family member of a third-country national coming for the purpose of studying or is a researcher coming on the basis of a visiting contract, and in some cases involving minors).</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A.</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Cyprus</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>In Cyprus, the visa exemption applies only for tourism purposes and for a duration of up to 90 days within any 180-day period. For a stay exceeding 90 days (and certainly for periods of one year or more), the third-country national is required to apply for a residence permit or a long-term visa.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>Long term status, Blue Card holders, Intra Corporate Transferees, Single Permit holders who have reasonable prospects of obtaining the right of permanent residency and have sufficient financial means to support their families(e.g. Companies of foreign Interests), MGEN (BY EXEMPTION), and Recognised Refugees</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>If a recognized refugee wishes to be reunited with his or her family members, the application for family reunification must be submitted no later than three months after the sponsor has been granted refugee status.</p> <p>To prove family ties, official documents, including copies of passports or travel documents for</p>
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			<p>both the sponsor and the family members, are required by law, as they are considered the most reliable sources of information. If official documents are unavailable, alternative evidence such as family photographs, correspondence, or statutory declarations may be accepted. The authorities may also decide to interview the sponsor and/or the family members and conduct additional inquiries if deemed necessary. It is important to note that applications may not be rejected solely on the basis of a lack of documentation.</p> <p>Regarding permanent residence permit, please see the link attached https://www.mip.gov.cy/dmmip/md.nsf/All/9A30A77179F0AE6AC225893D0032AA65?OpenDocument</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>Family members who intend to reside in the Republic of Cyprus for the purpose of family reunification are required to apply for and obtain the appropriate entry visa from the competent Cypriot authorities abroad or from the Migration Department prior to entry. However, in cases where they benefit from a visa-free regime or hold a valid Schengen visa, they are not required to obtain an entry visa prior to travelling to Cyprus and may submit an application for family reunification after their arrival in the Republic.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>No</p> <p>Family members must obtain a visa for family reunification purposes from a diplomatic</p>
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			<p>mission (Embassy or Consulate) of the Republic of Cyprus abroad. The cost of the visa is approximately €35. Please note that the sponsor and the family members are solely responsible for all travel-related expenses.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>No</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Czech Republic</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>Yes. In the Czech Republic, third-country nationals who benefit from a visa-free travel regime or hold a Schengen short-stay visa are required to apply for a long-term visa or a long-term residence permit if they intend to reside in the territory for more than 90 days, including for periods of one year or longer. Visa-free entry or short-stay visas cannot be converted into long-term residence from within the territory. As a rule, a long-term visa issued prior to entry constitutes the initial legal basis for residence exceeding 90 days, including in cases of intended family reunification.</p> <p>As for the requirements, they are listed in Act No. 326/1999 Coll. on the Residence of Foreign Nationals in the Territory of the Czech Republic and include (but are not limited to): a valid travel document, accommodation in the territory of the Czech Republic, proof of sufficient financial means for the stay, proof of the purpose of stay – in the case of family reunification in particular a civil status document proving the family relationship – and an extract from the</p>


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			<p>Penal Register record. The applicant must also pay a consular fee.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>In the Czech Republic, family reunification is available to third-country nationals who hold a valid long-term residence permit or permanent residence permit. Eligible sponsors typically include holders of long-term residence permits issued for purposes such as employment (including employee cards and Blue Cards), business, research, investment or other legally recognised long-term purposes or holders of permanent residence permits. These residence categories demonstrate the sponsor's intention and legal capacity to reside in the Czech Republic for a longer period and therefore entitle them to submit an application for family reunification under Czech law.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>Where a third-country national residing in the Czech Republic applies for family reunification with family members residing abroad, the sponsor must hold a valid long-term or permanent residence permit and, depending on the specific category, may be required to demonstrate a certain length of prior residence in the Czech Republic, sufficient financial means and secured accommodation. Family members must qualify as eligible family members under Czech legislation, such as spouses, minor children or other dependent relatives. They are required to prove the family relationship through official documents and must meet general conditions for long-term stay, including possession of a valid travel document and health insurance.</p>
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			<p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>No. In the Czech Republic, applications for long-term visas or long-term residence permits for the purpose of family reunification must generally be submitted from outside the territory. Family members cannot normally apply from within the Czech Republic while staying on the basis of a visa-free regime or a Schengen short-stay visa. Czech legislation follows the principle that applications for residence exceeding 90 days must be lodged at a Czech diplomatic mission abroad, usually in the country of nationality or lawful residence of the applicant.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>Yes, but only in a limited sense. While a long-term visa is generally required for entry for the purpose of family reunification, certain exceptions exist regarding the place where the application may be submitted. Nationals of specific third countries may be allowed to lodge an application for a long-term visa at any Czech diplomatic mission abroad, regardless of their country of origin or permanent residence. These exceptions do not exempt applicants from the obligation to hold a long-term visa as such; they only affect the territorial competence of diplomatic missions.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p>
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			<p>The legal basis for these exceptions is provided in Czech national legislation, in particular in Decree No. 429/2010 Coll., which regulates the territorial competence of Czech diplomatic missions for receiving long-term visa applications. These exceptions are based on national legal provisions and do not stem from bilateral or international agreements on family reunification or visa-free travel, but rather from administrative rules governing the submission of long-term visa applications.</p>
 <p>EMN NCP Estonia</p>		<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>Yes, third-country nationals must either apply for a long-term (D) visa or apply directly for a temporary residence permit (depending on the purpose of stay). The applicant must generally fulfil the following requirements: a legitimate purpose of stay sufficient legal income health insurance valid travel document accommodation in Estonia no threat to public order, national security or public health</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>Family reunification may be applied for if the sponsor holds: a temporary residence permit a long-term resident's residence permit permanent right of residence in Estonia In addition, family reunification is also possible for beneficiaries of international protection and temporary protection.</p>

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3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?

Sponsor has to:

hold a valid residence permit in Estonia, assume responsibility for the invited family member (Aliens Act § 291), including: ensuring accommodation and maintenance of the family member in Estonia; covering the costs of health care and health insurance if these are not otherwise guaranteed; covering costs related to the stay and possible return of the family member if required by the authorities; informing the authorities of relevant changes, such as termination of family life or the family member leaving Estonia; Family member has to:

prove family relationship (e.g. marriage certificate, birth certificate), have a valid travel document, have health insurance, not pose a security or public order risk. For beneficiaries of temporary and international protection, family reunification is subject to special and more favourable rules (income, accommodation and insurance requirements not applicable and the concept of family members may be broader) as the family member concerned applies for protection in his or her own right and is therefore covered by the protection regime.

4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.

No. A third-country national may submit an application either at a Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB) service office in Estonia or at an Estonian foreign mission.

Therefore, family members are not required to apply from within Estonia. However, if the applicant is already legally staying in Estonia, submitting the application within Estonia is procedurally more practical.

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			<p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>No, there is no country-specific exemption list.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>n/a</p>
+	EMN NCP Finland	Yes	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>NO. If a TCN who is a citizen of a visa-free country wants to stay in Finland for over 90 days, they are required to apply for a first residence permit abroad and wait for the decision abroad.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>Family members of a sponsor residing in Finland on any of the following residence permit categories may apply for family reunification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - international protection (asylum, subsidiary protection of temporary protection),


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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">- residence permit on the basis of family ties, research, studies, entrepreneurship or work (including residence permit for a specialist, a start-up entrepreneur, for work in the top or middle management of a company or an EU Blue Card or an intra-corporate transferee (ICT) residence permit),- long-term resident's EU residence permit,- residence permit on compassionate grounds,- temporary residence permit (for example for work or business activities and for other special reasons, in which case a temporary residence permit can also be granted to a family member). <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>The sponsor must have a residence permit to Finland and they must fill out a form for clarification of family ties. The family member must reside legally in the country where they apply for the residence permit. Their identity must be reliably verified by means of a valid national travel document. They must submit documentary evidence of the family relationship. If not exempted from the income requirement the family member is required to provide evidence of having sufficient financial resources.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>NO. If a TCN who is a citizen of a visa-free country wants to stay in Finland for over 90 days, they need to apply for a first residence permit abroad and wait for the decision abroad. Applications for a first residence permit can be submitted in Finland only in certain exceptional</p>
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			<p>situations. A family member of a Finnish citizen, student or researcher may apply for a first residence permit in Finland and wait for the decision while staying here, provided that they have entered the country legally and are residing in the country legally at the time of submitting the application. Even in this case, a long-term visa is not required, but the residence permit application must be submitted during a visa-free stay or during the validity of a visa. A residence permit for family ties may be applied for and issued in Finland, if the requirements for issuing such a residence permit abroad are met and if the person has already, before entering Finland, lived together for at least two years with his or her married spouse who lives in Finland, or has continuously lived together for at least two years in the same household in a marriage-like relationship with a person who lives in Finland (or if refusing a residence permit would be manifestly unreasonable).</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP France</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>According to Article L.312-2 of the Code on Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals and Right of Asylum (CESEDA), possession of a long-stay visa (VLS; type D) is required of any foreign national wishing to enter France in order to stay for a period exceeding three months, unless they are exempt from this requirement. All nationalities are subject to the obligation to hold a long-stay visa to enter France, with the exception of: citizens of the European Union; nationals of the Member States of the European Economic Area: Iceland, Norway, and Liechtenstein; nationals of Monaco, Andorra, San Marino, and the Holy See, pursuant to bilateral agreements. The CESEDA provides for a visa exemption for certain categories of foreign nationals, in particular: ICT employees seeking to exercise a right to intra-European mobility; third-country nationals holding an 'EU long-term resident' residence permit, etc. The long-stay visa is issued by the French consular authorities. The documents to be submitted vary depending on the purpose of the stay, such as employment, studies, family members of a French national or of a foreign national lawfully residing in France, etc.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>Within the framework of family reunification, pursuant to Article L.434-2 of the CESEDA, the sponsor is defined as "the foreign national who has been lawfully residing in France for at least 18 months, holding one of the residence permits with a validity of at least one year," and who applies to be joined by members of their family.</p>
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		<p>According to Article R.434-1 of the CESEDA, at the time the application is submitted, the sponsor must hold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a temporary residence permit with a validity of at least one year (bearing the annotation employee, private and family life, student, visitor, etc.);a multi-year residence permit;a resident card;a resident card valid for ten years or of indefinite duration;or a receipt evidencing an application for the renewal of one of these permits. <p>The minimum period of 18 months of lawful residence must have been completed under cover of the above-mentioned permits or of the documents listed in Article R.434-2 of the CESEDA, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a long-stay visa conferring on its holder the rights attached to a temporary residence permit;a temporary residence permit with a validity of less than one year;a provisional residence authorisation;a receipt for an application for the first issuance or renewal of a residence permit;an asylum application certificate. <p>The provisions apply to third-country nationals who are intended to settle in France on a long-term basis. Consequently, categories of persons who do not meet this condition, such as trainees, posted workers, or seasonal workers, are excluded, as they cannot satisfy the prerequisite of durable residence in France.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>The sponsor must prove, as part of the family reunification procedure that he or she has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">on the date of arrival of the family in France, accommodation considered normal for a comparable family living in the same geographical area;stable and sufficient resources to meet the needs of the family;and complied with the essential principles which, in accordance with the laws of the Republic, govern family life in France. <p>The family must reside abroad. However, family members already present in France may, on an exceptional basis, benefit from family reunification on French territory.</p>
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			<p>The spouse or children may be excluded from family reunification where their presence in France constitutes a threat to public order.</p> <p>The family reunification procedure applies collectively to: the adult spouse (aged at least 18) who is legally married to the sponsor; minor children (under 18 years of age). The children concerned may be: children of the couple, provided that filiation has been legally established or that an adoption has been granted by a judicial decision; children from a previous union of the sponsor or of the spouse, in one of the following cases: the other parent is deceased or has been deprived of parental authority; parental authority is exercised by one of the parents pursuant to a decision of a foreign court. In principle, partial family reunification is not permitted, as all family members must join France simultaneously. However, an application for partial family reunification may exceptionally be accepted where the best interests of the children so justify.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>Within the framework of family reunification, pursuant to Article L. 434-2 of the CESEDA, it is the sponsor residing in France who must submit the application for family reunification to the French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII).</p> <p>As a general rule, family reunification on French territory is not permitted. However, there are exceptions under which admission may take place on French territory: the administration may, on an exceptional basis, grant family reunification to persons already present in France on the basis of specific considerations, such as the need to avoid separating family members, the best interests of the child, or a risk to the person in the event of return to their country, etc.</p>
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			<p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>yes - see Q1</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>European Union law National legislation (CESEDA)</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Germany</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>Yes. Usually, third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside in Germany for longer periods are required to apply for a long-term visa. Holders of a Schengen visa and beneficiaries of a visa free regime for short term stays usually have to leave Germany and apply for a visa for family reunification from abroad.</p> <p>In order to apply for a long-term visa for family reunification the general prerequisites for granting a residence title must be fulfilled. This includes the fulfillment of the passport obligation and usually secure subsistence of the foreigner and his family members. Moreover, the specific prerequisites for granting a residence title for family reunification must also be met.</p>

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			<p>In cases of subsequent immigration to German nationals, the requirement to ensure secure subsistence does not apply where minor, unmarried children of German nationals or parents of a minor, unmarried German want to enter Germany. In the case of spouses of German nationals, a long-term visa is also granted as a general rule in derogation from the requirement to secure subsistence. Spouses generally also have to meet the requirement to be able to communicate in the German language at least on a basic level (level A1 CEFR).</p> <p>In cases of subsequent immigration to Third-Country nationals, family members usually have to meet all general prerequisites of being granted a residence title. Moreover, there is a requirement to have sufficient living space.</p> <p>Spouses, wishing to enter Germany must be at least 18 years old (this age requirement also applies to the spouse already residing in Germany). Additionally, they must demonstrate at least a basic command of the German language (level A1 CEFR).</p> <p>In cases of family reunification for minor, unmarried children above the age of 16, the child has to be able to communicate in the German language (Level C1 CEFR) if he or she does not relocate his or her main residence to Germany simultaneously with their parents or the parent with sole custody. An exception applies if, based on the child's education and previous lifestyle, it is expected that he or she will be able to integrate into the way of life in Germany. Furthermore, this requirement does not apply if a parent possesses a specific residence title, as listed in Section 32 (2) of the German Residence Act.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>To join a sponsor as a family member, the sponsor must generally hold a permanent settlement permit, an EU long-term residence permit, an EU Blue Card, an ICT Card, or a standard residence permit.</p>
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In order to join a resident spouse as a family member, the resident spouse must generally hold a permanent settlement permit, an EU long term residence permit, a residence permit, an EU Blue Card, an ICT Card or a Mobile ICT Card. Specifically for spousal reunification, the sponsor must hold one of the aforementioned titles or a residence permit issued for research purposes (Sections 18d, 18f) or as a recognized refugee/asylum seeker (Section 25 (1) or (2) Sentence 1 Alternative 1 of the German Residence Act).

Moreover, resident spouses who have held a residence permit for two years which is not subject to an ancillary provision or the subsequent issuance of a permanent settlement permit has not been ruled out by a rule of law, can apply for family reunification.

Furthermore, a residence permit issued for educational purposes, for the purpose of economic activity, for reasons of international law or on humanitarian or political grounds (with the exception of residence titles issued for beneficiaries of subsidiary protection) or for family reasons entitles the resident spouse to family reunification if the marriage existed at the time said permit was granted, and the foreigner's stay in Germany is expected to exceed one year. Lastly, if the sponsor possesses a temporary residence permit issued to EU long-term residents who reside in another EU member state (Art. 14 and 15 Directive 2003/109/EC) the resident spouse can apply for family reunification.


3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?

The requirements for being granted a residence title for family reunification do not depend on whether the application for the residence title is being made from abroad or from within Germany. Hence, the same rules as laid out in the answer to question 1 apply.

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			<p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>Holders of a Schengen visa and beneficiaries of a visa free regime for short term stays usually have to leave Germany and apply for a visa for family reunification from abroad.</p> <p>Exceptions apply if the family members have been lawfully resident in Germany under visa-waiver regulations and the requirements for a residence title were met after they entered Germany. For those benefiting from a visa-free regime, lawful residence is contingent upon the fact that a long-term stay was not initially intended prior to entering Germany.</p> <p>Hence, where a long-term residence was the goal before entering Germany or where the conditions for entitlement have been met before entering Germany, it is necessary for the beneficiary to leave Germany to apply for a long-term visa.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>Exceptions apply to nationals of a country listed in Annex II of Regulation (EU) 2018/1806 who are lawfully resident in Germany if the conditions for entitlement to a residence title were met after they entered Germany (Section 39 (3) of the Ordinance Governing Residence).</p> <p>Moreover, nationals of Australia, Andorra, Brazil, El Salvador, Honduras, Israel, Japan, Canada, the Republic of Korea, Monaco, New Zealand, San Marino, the United Kingdom and the United States can enter and stay in Germany and apply for a residence title without requiring a visa for a period which does not constitute a short stay.</p>
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			<p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>The legal basis for exempting nationals of a country listed in Annex II of the Regulation (EU) 2018/1806 who are legally resident is Section 39 (3) of the Ordinance Governing Residence.</p> <p>The legal basis for exempting nationals of certain states from the visa requirement is Section 41 (1&2) of the Ordinance Governing Residence.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Greece</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>According to migration legislation [articles 84 and 85 of I.5038/2023, Government Gazette (GG) Issue A' 81] into which Directive 2003/86 has been transposed, a third-country national who has been legally residing in Greece for two (2) years is entitled to request, upon his/her application, the entry and residence in the country of his/her family members. The application is submitted and examined when these members reside outside Greek territory.</p> <p>The sponsor submits, through the electronic services of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, an application for family reunification, accompanied by the required supporting documents. The competent Service is obliged to immediately request the opinion of the relevant police authority on issues relating to public order and security, as well as the opinion of the competent Greek consular authority, in order to verify the existence of the family relationship, in particular through personal interviews with the family members and the examination of risks arising for public health. The competent Service, after taking into account the above opinions, issues a relevant decision approving family reunification and transmits it via e-mail</p>


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			<p>to the relevant Greek consular authority, which, provided that the request has been accepted and the other entry conditions are met, grants the required national entry visas (type D) to the family members.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>The provisions of family reunification apply when the sponsor holds a residence permit issued by the competent Greek authorities, valid for at least two (2) years, which enables him to acquire the right of permanent residence, provided that his family members are third-country nationals, regardless of their status.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>In order to exercise the right for family reunification, the sponsor shall prove the family relationship with the members of his family for whom he is requesting reunification in Greece, as well as that he himself meets, cumulatively, the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. has accommodation capable of covering the needs of himself and of the members of his family for whom he is requesting reunification,b. has a personal income, stable and regular, sufficient for the needs of himself and his family, which does not come from recourse to the country's social assistance system. The income cannot be lower than the annual net income of the person paid the minimum wage, in accordance with national legislation, increased by 20% for the spouse and by 15% for each child. The above 15% increase for each child is not required if both spouses legally reside in Greece,
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			<p>c. has full health insurance for all risks covered for the corresponding categories of domestic employees, which can also cover the members of his family.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>No. Family members need to exit the country and reenter Greece as holders of a national visa (type D), according to the procedure described above. As soon as they enter the country with national visa, they apply for a residence permit for family reunification.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>Yes. The only exceptions to the above provision is for third country nationals who are family members of investors (third country nationals) or of a Greek citizen, according to migration legislation (articles 95 and 93 respectively, I.5038/2023). In this case, the family members may enter the country with any type of visa and may apply for a residence permit for family reunification, within the validity period of the visa and if all the other conditions of the law are met.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>For investors, the legal basis is the legal grounds provided in the national legislation, while for</p>
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			<p>the family members of a Greek citizen the legal basis is Directive 2004/38 on the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Hungary</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>Yes. Under Hungarian law (Act XC of 2023 on the general rules for the entry and residence of third-country nationals), any third-country national wishing to stay in Hungary for longer than 90 days in a 180-day period must hold a long-term visa. Short-stay "visa-free" entry does not grant the right to reside long-term in Hungary.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>A residence permit for the purpose of family reunification may be granted to a third-country national who is a family member of a person in possession of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a residence permit; an immigration permit; a settlement permit; a permanent residence permit; an interim permanent residence permit; a national or EC permanent residence permit; a residence card; or a permanent residence card.


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			<p>A residence permit for the purpose of family reunification may not be granted to a third-country national if the sponsor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">does not hold a residence permit for the purpose of guest self-employment for at least a year,holds a residence permit for the purpose of seasonal employment,holds a residence permit for the purpose of employment for the purpose of investment,holds a residence permit for the purpose of employment,holds a residence permit for guest workers,is a holder of a White Card,holds a residence permit for the purpose of studies (including the purpose of seeking job or starting a business), training,holds a residence permit for the purpose of traineeship,holds a residence permit for the purpose of voluntary service. <p>The spouse of the sponsor cannot be granted a residence permit if the other spouse of the sponsor is in possession of a residence visa or a residence permit issued for the purpose of family reunification.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>The sponsor must hold the residence permits listed above in Q2. The family members need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">present travel documents valid for at least 3 months longer than the intended period of stay;verify the family relationship;prove accommodation;prove sufficient financial resources; andprove health insurance coverage.
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		<p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>Application can be made within Hungary if the applicant may enter Hungary visa-free, the application may also be submitted during the legal stay within Hungary.</p> <p>Application submission outside of Hungary should be made if a residence permit is not held and entry into Hungary without a visa is not permitted, the application for the issuance of a residence permit must be submitted outside of Hungary.</p> <p>Applications may be submitted at a Hungarian diplomatic or consular mission in the applicant's country of nationality or habitual residence. It is recommended to contact the competent foreign mission to obtain information on other authorized locations for receiving residence permit applications. Such locations may include honorary consuls, trade representations, or external service providers.</p> <p>In the absence of consulates or other authorized application-receiving locations, applications may, in exceptional cases, be submitted in a country of legal stay if justification for the exceptional submission is provided.</p> <p>A separate visa application is not required, as the residence permit application also constitutes an application for a visa enabling collection of the residence permit.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>Yes. Third-country nationals who are exempt from the Schengen visa requirement (visa-free) and are lawfully present in Hungary may, under the national procedural rules contained in the Act XC of 2023 and its implementing decrees, submit an application for a residence permit</p>
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			<p>(including for the purpose of family reunification) directly in Hungary without first obtaining a long-term visa. There is also a visa for receiving a residence permit: a specific short-term visa allowing the holder to enter Hungary and collect the permit once it has been approved.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>Exceptions to the long-term visa requirement are provided by Hungarian national legislation, in particular Act XC of 2023 and its implementing decrees.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Ireland</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>No.</p> <p>Ireland did not opt into the Family Reunification Directive (2003/86/EC), and it is not transposed in the national legislation. Recently, the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration completed a comprehensive Final Report on the Review of the Non-EEA Family Reunification Policy. The Revised Family Reunification Policy was published in November 2025. The short-term measures from the revised policy took immediate effect and thus responses from NCP Ireland here reflect these changes. The long - term measures will be introduced over time.</p> <p>Ireland is not part of the Schengen area. It enforces its own national visa and border policies for third-country nationals. Under Irish law a visa is distinct from an immigration permission. A visa is an authorisation for a third-country national to travel to the borders of the State and</p>

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			<p>apply for entry. A third-country national who is not visa required to travel to the State, may arrive at the borders of the State and indicate their intention to work, study, live or join family for more than 90 days (see non-visa-required-nationalities). Their application will be considered by border control and the third-country national may be permitted entry into the State with conditions inscribed on their passport or travel document. They may, for example, be conditioned to make further representations to Immigration Service Delivery, to register their permission at the Registration Office, or apply for a residence card under Directive 2004/38/EC.</p> <p>Some groups of third-country nationals from non-visa required countries, for example persons seeking recognition as de facto partners or family members of UK Nationals, who want to come to Ireland for more than 90 days, are required to obtain Pre-clearance authorisation before travelling to the State to take up residence (see Visa Preclearance for Ireland).</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>The Revised Family Reunification Policy (2025) states that family reunification means the entry and subsequent residence in the State, by a family member of a sponsor residing lawfully in the State, under a permission issued in accordance with this policy. The following categories of persons are eligible to be sponsors for the family reunification:</p> <p>Category A Sponsor Those granted refugee status or subsidiary protection status who are resident in Ireland where the application is not within the scope of Section 56 and 57 of the International Protection Act 2015.</p> <p>Category B Sponsor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Investors with a permission under the Immigrant Investor Programmeb) Entrepreneurs with a permission under the Start-up Entrepreneur Programme (STEP)
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			<p>c) Critical Skills Employment Permit holders d) Researchers on Hosting Agreements e) Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) approved scholarship programme students f) Intra-company transferees g) PhD student permission holders (subject to conditions including having no recourse to State funds) h) Full-time non-locum doctors in employment i) Ministers of Religion under the relevant Scheme (subject to conditions including having no recourse to State funds).</p> <p>Category C Sponsor</p> <p>a) General Employment Permit holders b) Reactivation Employment Permit holders, c) Stamp 4 holders not covered by categories set out as above, who are eligible to sponsor a family reunification application.</p> <p>Stamp 4 means an immigration permission which entitles a non-EEA national to reside in Ireland for a specified period of time, subject to condition, to work without the need for an employment permit and to operate business.</p> <p>Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection who hold stamp 4 permissions are not included in the above Category C sponsor.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>There is no automatic entitlement to family reunification. The granting or refusal of a family reunification application is dependent on a number of key criteria (see Part II, Revised Family Reunification Policy, 2025).</p>
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			<p>a) Eligible Categories of the sponsors (Category A, Category B and Category C, see the answer to the above question 2).</p> <p>b) Eligible Categories of family members Nuclear family – spouse / civil partner/ de facto partner/unmarried minor children under the age of 18 Adult dependent family members will be limited to parents and adult children with serious health conditions who cannot live independently. Members of the sponsor’s nuclear family are the primary focus of the revised policy. Dependent parents and dependent adult children may also apply but they are subject to more rigorous requirement and checks.</p> <p>c) Financial thresholds and financial records The economic consideration is important when assessing family reunification applications. The sponsor must show evidence that they can provide for the family members if they are permitted to enter and reside in Ireland. The sponsor must not have been mainly reliant on State support from the Irish State for a continuous period of two years or longer immediately prior to the application. The financial threshold varies depending on the categories of the sponsors and family members. The financial requirements for family reunification are under ongoing review and will be updated on an annual basis (see section 9 & section 10, Revised Family Reunification Policy, 2025). People on employment permits with a higher salary threshold such as Critical Skill Employment Permit holders are not subject to income thresholds. The financial thresholds for seeking family reunification with adult dependent relatives are higher due to the potential burden on State Services.</p> <p>d) Waiting period based on category of sponsor and family member Category A sponsor: no waiting period. Apply family reunification any time. Category B: no waiting period for family reunification with nuclear family members, who may accompany them on arrival in the State provided all requirements of the Policy are met and they have obtained entry-visas where necessary. For any other family members, they can apply after 2 years in the State on an eligible permission, in the period immediately prior to making an application.</p>
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			<p>Category C: May apply for family reunification with nuclear family members after 12 months in the State on an eligible permission, and for any other family members they can apply after 5 years in the State on an eligible permission.</p> <p>e) Dependency There must be a valid and genuine family relationship between the sponsor and the family member, and this relationship must involve dependency.</p> <p>f) Good Character and Conduct Family members seeking to reside in Ireland must be of good character and conduct, prior to travelling to the Ireland and during their residence. An application for family reunification will be refused where a party to an application (sponsor and/or family member) is deemed a potential risk to public security, public policy or public health.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>Yes/No Ireland is not part of the Schengen area. It enforces its own national visa and border policies for third country nationals. Currently, family members from non-visa required third countries, can apply for family reunification within Ireland, except dependent parents and adult children with serious health conditions who cannot live independently. The adult dependents have to apply for family reunification outside Ireland. Family members from a visa-required third country must apply for family reunification while they are outside Ireland. For the long-term measure, the Final Report on the Review of the Non-EEA Family Reunification Policy, 2025) recommends that family members who are non-visa required third country nationals should be required to apply for family reunification before they arrive in Ireland, in the same way as visa required third country nationals.</p>
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			<p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>Ireland is not part of the Schengen area. It enforces its own national visa and border policies for third country nationals. Only third-country nationals who are non-visa required can be excepted from applying for a long-term visa to come to Ireland. They may arrive at the borders of the State and indicate their intention to work, study, live or join family for more than 90 days (see non-visa-required-nationalities). Their application will be considered by border control and the third-country national may be permitted entry into the State with conditions inscribed on their passport or travel document. They may, for example, be conditioned to make further representations to Immigration Service Delivery, to register their permission at the Registration Office or apply for a residence card under Directive 2004/38/EC.</p> <p>Some groups of third –country nationals from non-Visa required countries, for example persons seeking recognition as de facto partners or family members of UK Nationals, who want to come to Ireland for more than 90 days, are required to obtain Pre-clearance authorisation before travelling to the State to take up residence(see Visa Preclearance for Ireland). The current preclearance requirement is not determined by country, but by schemes.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p>
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			N/A
	EMN NCP Italy	Yes	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>The residence permits that allow the applicant to submit an application for family reunification are: an EU long-term residence permit or a residence permit with a duration of at least one year issued for employed or self-employed work, family reasons, study, religious reasons, asylum or subsidiary protection, as well as for specific categories such as digital nomads and scientific research, provided that the permits are valid and of an adequate duration.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>To apply for family reunification, the main requirements are: a sufficient annual income, suitable residence, and proof of the family relationship.</p> <p>The application is limited to spouses, minor children, adult children with disabilities, or dependent parents (under certain conditions).</p>


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			<p>An exception applies to beneficiaries of international protection (asylum or subsidiary protection), who are exempt from the income and accommodation requirements.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Latvia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p>

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			<p>Third-country nationals are required to request a temporary residence permit while they are staying in Latvia under the visa-free travel regime. If they have not done so, they must leave Latvia and submit documents for a residence permit to the diplomatic or consular mission of the Republic of Latvia abroad. After receiving a positive decision, they will be issued a long-term visa to enter Latvia to receive a residence permit but only in cases if a period of visa-free regime has expired. If they are eligible to travel under the visa-free travel regime, they are entitled to enter Latvia and receive their residence permit without obtaining a long-term visa.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>Third-country nationals who apply or have been granted any kind of a residence permit of Latvia.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>If the sponsor needs the invitation to apply for a residence permit, then such an invitation is also required for the sponsor's family members. After the invitation is approved, the family member can submit documents for a residence permit - fill out a questionnaire; submit a copy of a valid travel document; documents confirming the necessary means of support; documents confirming kinship. By receiving a residence permit, it is necessary to submit a document confirming the place of residence and present a valid health insurance policy.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a</p>
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			<p>visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain. Yes, the family member can apply for a residence permit in a Member State during his/her period of legal stay in Latvia with visa or under visa-free regime.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>No (long-stay visa is not mandatory).</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/a</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Lithuania</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>Visa-free third-country nationals may stay in Lithuania no longer than 90 days in any 180-day period. A third-country national who intends to stay longer than 90 days must hold either a national long-stay visa (D), or a temporary residence permit, where the law explicitly allows applying without a national visa.</p>

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			<p>The national visa is valid for up to a year. A national visa may be issued only where the foreigner demonstrates a lawful purpose of long-term stay listed exhaustively. These include, inter alia, work, studies, business activity, family member accompanying a principal migrant, other cases where the purpose is long-term residence. When applying for a national visa, the applicant must meet all general entry and stay conditions, including a valid travel document, health insurance, sufficient means of subsistence and return, documents confirming the purpose of stay.</p> <p>If a third-country national wishes to stay in Lithuania for longer than one year, they must hold a permit granting the right of residence, namely a temporary residence permit or a permanent residence permit. A temporary residence permit is issued only for a legally recognised purpose, such as work, studies, family reunification, or business activity. The applicant must meet general conditions applicable across all residence categories, including possession of a valid travel document, comprehensive health insurance, sufficient and stable resources, and access to suitable accommodation. In addition, the applicant must not pose a risk to public policy, public security, or public health and must not be subject to an entry ban or other refusal grounds.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>In Lithuania, the right to apply for family reunification is governed by the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners and depends on the residence status of the person already residing in the country. Not all holders of temporary residence permits are entitled to sponsor family reunification.</p> <p>Family reunification may be sponsored by third-country nationals who hold a temporary</p>
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			<p>residence permit and whose residence in Lithuania is considered stable and prospective, namely those who have lawfully resided in Lithuania for at least two years, hold a temporary residence permit valid for at least one year, and have justified prospects of acquiring the right of permanent residence, unless they fall under an explicit exemption. These exemptions cover, in particular, third-country nationals granted international protection; holders of temporary residence permits issued on specific grounds (including, inter alia, highly qualified employment, ICT, researchers, investors, and certain other special categories); EU long-term residents who already created a family in another Member State; participants in international academic exchange programs; and persons involved in projects of importance to the State. Conversely, third-country nationals whose residence is purely temporary or who fall within the exclusion clauses (e.g. asylum applicants pending a final decision or beneficiaries of temporary protection), cannot sponsor family reunification.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>In Lithuania, when a third-country national residing in the country seeks to reunite with family members who are living abroad, both the person already residing in Lithuania (the sponsor) and the family member must meet a set of clearly defined conditions.</p> <p>The sponsor must have a residence status that allows family reunification and must normally have already lived in Lithuania for at least two years. In addition, the sponsor must hold a residence permit that is valid for at least one more year and must have realistic prospects of remaining in Lithuania on a long-term basis. These requirements are waived only for specific categories (e.g. permanent residents, certain protected or highly qualified migrants, citizens of certain states). The sponsor must also be able to ensure adequate accommodation, health insurance, and sufficient financial resources for the arriving family member.</p>
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			<p>The family member must be a close family member recognized for reunification purposes (e.g. a spouse or registered partner or a minor child), must hold a valid travel document, and must pass general security and public order checks. The authorities also assess whether the family relationship is genuine, and family reunification is not available where the sponsor's status is temporary, unresolved, or otherwise excluded under the applicable rules.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>As a general rule, applications for a temporary residence permit on the ground of family reunification must be submitted from outside Lithuania, while the family member is residing in the country of origin or habitual residence, even if they are visa-free nationals or are staying temporarily on a Schengen visa.</p> <p>Lithuanian law establishes explicit exceptions, where family members may apply from within Lithuania while lawfully staying in the country.</p> <p>First, third-country national family members of EU citizens fall under a separate EU free-movement regime, not the standard family reunification rules applicable to third-country nationals. Family members of EU citizens have the right to apply for a residence card from within Lithuania, regardless of whether they entered visa-free or on a Schengen visa.</p> <p>Second, third-country nationals who already hold a lawful right of residence in Lithuania may apply in-country where the law allows a change or replacement of the residence permit, including when family reunification is requested as a new ground. In these cases, the person is not entering Lithuania for family reunification but is already lawfully residing there, and the law treats the application as a continuation or modification of lawful residence rather than a</p>
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			<p>first entry.</p> <p>Third, the law allows exceptional in-country applications where leaving Lithuania is objectively impossible or unreasonable. These include situations such as serious illness, force majeure, or other unforeseeable circumstances preventing departure, as well as narrowly defined humanitarian or procedural exceptions. These cases are treated as derogations, assessed individually, and do not create a general right to apply in-country.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>In Lithuania, family reunification is based on the issuance of a temporary residence permit. Family members do not acquire the right to reside through a visa; instead, they must obtain a temporary residence permit on the ground of family reunification, which grants the right to live in Lithuania with the sponsoring family member, usually for two years and later renewable for four years.</p> <p>A national long-stay visa (D) is not the legal basis for family reunification and is used only in limited and specific circumstances. National visas may be issued to family members as an auxiliary entry or accompanying document, mainly where the family member is a visa-required national and needs a lawful basis to enter Lithuania, or where the family member accompanies a sponsor belonging to narrowly defined categories, such as lecturers or researchers, participants in international or governmental programmes, or high-performance athletes and coaches. In these cases, the national visa merely facilitates entry and temporary stay and does not replace the requirement to obtain a temporary residence permit.</p> <p>As mentioned in the answer to Q4, Lithuania generally requires applications for family</p>
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			<p>reunification (i.e. for a temporary residence permit on ground of family reunification) to be lodged from outside the country, but there are explicit and well-defined exceptions to this rule. Third-country nationals may apply for a temporary residence permit on grounds of family reunification from within Lithuania while lawfully staying in the country in the following cases: First, third-country national family members of EU citizens fall under a separate EU free-movement regime, not the standard family reunification rules applicable to third-country nationals. Family members of EU citizens have the right to apply for a residence card from within Lithuania, regardless of whether they entered visa-free or on a Schengen visa. Second, third-country nationals who already hold a lawful right of residence in Lithuania may apply in-country where the law allows a change or replacement of the residence permit, including when family reunification is requested as a new ground. In these cases, the person is not entering Lithuania for family reunification but is already lawfully residing there, and the law treats the application as a continuation or modification of lawful residence rather than a first entry. Third, the law allows exceptional in-country applications where leaving Lithuania is objectively impossible or unreasonable. These include situations such as serious illness, force majeure, or other unforeseeable circumstances preventing departure, as well as narrowly defined humanitarian or procedural exceptions. These cases are treated as derogations, assessed individually, and do not create a general right to apply in-country.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>Lithuania does not operate a visa-based family reunification system. Family reunification is organized through the issuance of a temporary residence permit, which is the constitutive document granting the right to reside with a family member.</p> <p>The exceptions mentioned in Question 5 do not stem from special bilateral agreements or nationality-based exemptions. The possibility for in-country applications by family members of</p>
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			<p>EU citizens is based on EU free-movement law, as transposed into Lithuanian legislation. The possibility for third-country nationals already lawfully residing in Lithuania to apply in-country when changing or replacing a residence permit, including for family reunification, is based on explicit procedural rules in national legislation governing the issuance and replacement of residence permits. These rules treat such applications as a continuation of lawful residence rather than as first entry. Finally, the exceptional cases where applications may be lodged in-country due to objective obstacles to departure (such as serious illness, force majeure or comparable circumstances) are grounded in derogation clauses in national legislation and implementing ministerial acts, which allow departures from the general rule on the place of application on humanitarian or practical grounds.</p>
	EMN NCP Luxembourg	Yes	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>No, they have to apply for a temporary authorization to stay before entering on Luxembourg territory.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>A third-country national who holds a residence permit valid for at least one year and who has a well-founded prospect of obtaining a long-term residence permit may apply for family reunification with his family members. This article includes salaried workers, independent workers, sportsmen and trainers. ICT EU Blue Card holders, researchers and beneficiaries of international protection are exempted from this requirement. These may be accompanied by</p>

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			<p>their spouse or registered partner, as well as their unmarried children under 18, when they enter Luxembourg.</p> <p>A waiting period of 12 months anterior to the application only applies in the case of certain type of family members such as ascendants in the first degree and adult dependent children.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>resources will reasonably be available during the year following the date of submission of the application for family reunification, so that the sponsor does not have to resort to the social assistance system. The Minister may take into account the sponsor's income during the 6 months preceding the application. Where the applicant's level of resources does not reach 'the level referred to' in the preceding paragraph, the Minister may nevertheless issue a favourable decision, taking into account the evolution of the applicant's situation, in particular in relation to the stability of their employment and income or in relation to the fact that they are the owner of their dwelling or benefit from free of charge housing; have suitable accommodation to house the member(s) of their family (e.g. least contract, property deed - a floor area of at least 12 m² for the first occupant and 9 m² per additional occupant, with natural light through windows that can be opened and closed properly and which measure at least 1/10 of the floor area, heating, running water, electricity, etc.), assessed in accordance with the applicable legal criteria (law of 20 December 2019 on health, safety and habitability criteria for dwellings and rooms let or made available for dwelling purposes); have health insurance cover for themselves and the family member(s) (health insurance certificate or certificate of co-insurance covering their stay in Luxembourg issued by a Luxembourg or foreign social security body and/or by a private insurance company).</p>
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			<p>In Luxembourg, the sponsor to an application for family reunification can be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Luxembourgish national (Article 12 (3) of the Immigration Law)b) EU citizen (Article 14 (1) of the Immigration Law)c) Third-country national who is legally resident in Luxembourg and applies for family reunification, or whose family members apply to join him/herd) Third-country national who holds a residence permit valid for at least one year and who has a well-founded prospect of obtaining a long-term residence permit. This article includes salaried workers, independent workers, ICT, sportsmen and trainers and EU Blue Card holderse) Unaccompanied minor who is a beneficiary of international protectionf) Beneficiaries of international protection (refugee and subsidiary protection status). <p>Requirements for the family member</p> <p>Family reunification is not possible for all family members. The definition of a family member includes:</p> <p>the spouse or registered partner of the sponsor, aged 18 or over at the time of the application for family reunification (family reunification for a spouse is not allowed in the case of polygamous marriages, i.e. if the sponsor already has a spouse living in the family Luxembourg); the unmarried children under 18 of the sponsor and/or the spouse or partner for whom they have custody and where the children are dependent on them, or, in the case of shared custody, where the other party sharing custody has given their consent; the first-degree direct ascendants (mother and father) of unaccompanied minors who have been granted international protection. The minister may widen the possibilities for family reunification to the following persons provided the applicant has lawfully resided in Luxembourg for at least 12 months:</p> <p>first-degree direct ascendants of the sponsor or their spouse or partner (mother and father), where they are dependent on the sponsor or their spouse or partner and lack the necessary</p>
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			<p>family support in their country of origin; unmarried children aged 18 or over of the sponsor or their spouse or partner, where they are objectively unable to provide for their own needs on account of their state of health; the legal guardian or any other family member of an unaccompanied minor who has been granted international protection and who has no direct ascendants.</p> <p>The application for a temporary authorisation to stay must contain the applicant's identity details and must be accompanied by the following documents and information to prove the identity and family links of the family member:</p> <p>The documents to be enclosed will depend on the case.</p> <p>Sponsor's spouse or registered partner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a copy of the entire valid passport of the spouse/partner;• a recent extract from the criminal records or a sworn affidavit from the spouse/partner drawn up in their country of residence;• a certificate attesting to the marriage or the registered partnership (marriage certificate, registered partnership certificate, family record book, etc.). <p>Descendants (children) of the sponsor or the sponsor's spouse/partner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a copy of the child's entire valid passport;• proof of the family ties with the sponsor (child's birth certificate, family record book, etc.);• if the parents are divorced (only applicable to children aged under 18): <input type="checkbox"/> a copy of the ruling granting custody of the minor child to the parent residing in Luxembourg; and if the other parent has visiting or accommodation rights: the notarised authorisation of the parent residing abroad attesting to their agreement to the child moving to Luxembourg (accompanied by an identity document of the parent residing abroad);• in the case of shared custody (only applicable to children aged under 18): a notarised authorisation of the parent who does not reside in Luxembourg duly authorising the child to
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			<p>move to Luxembourg (accompanied by an identity document of the parent residing abroad).cxxx</p> <p>Ascendant (parent) of the sponsor or the sponsor's spouse/partner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•a copy of the entire valid passport of the ascendant;•a recent extract from the criminal record or a sworn affidavit of the ascendant established in the country of residence;•a document attesting to the family relationship (e.g. birth certificate of the sponsor or the sponsor's spouse/partner);•a document certifying the applicant's civil status and the family situation, as well as proof that they do not have the necessary family support in their country of origin (e.g. family record book or any equivalent document issued by the authorities of the applicant's country of origin, etc.);•proof that the ascendant was dependent on the sponsor prior to the application for family reunification (e.g. proof of regular payments by the sponsor to the parent's address);•a document attesting the financial situation of the parent in their country of origin (e.g. proof of the parent's own resources, such as income, assets, etc.). <p>The documents enclosed must be originals or certified true copies (except for the passport where a plain copy will suffice). Should the authenticity of a document be in doubt, the Minister responsible for immigration can request that the document be authenticated by the appropriate local authority and legalised by the Embassy (or alternatively notarised with an apostille of the Hague). If the documents are not drawn up in German, French or English, an official translation by a sworn translator cxxxiimust be attached.</p> <p>If they do not require a visa, the third-country national may enter Luxembourg with their authorisation to stay and their passport.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p>
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			<p>No. The application for a temporary authorization to stay has to be submitted by the third-country national family member before entering the country. However, the third-country national can mandate a third party (i.e. such as their family member living in Luxembourg (e.g. the sponsor) and or through a lawyer who had been granted a power of attorney) to submit the application on their behalf.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>No. Third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU are exempted from long-term visa requirements for the purpose of family reunification but have to request a temporary authorization to stay before entering the Luxembourg territory. If the third-country national does require a visa, they must apply for a long stay visa (D) before their trip and from their country of origin. The application, along with their authorisation to stay, must be submitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to the Luxembourg diplomatic or consular mission in their country of residence,• or, failing that, to the embassy or consulate of the country in the Schengen area which represents Luxembourg for the issuance of long-stay visas (the Belgian embassy or consulate only). <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p>
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			N/A.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMN NCP Malta 		Yes	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>Yes, any third country nationals wishing to stay for a period over 90-days must apply for a Maltese national long stay visa (D-Visa) which covers stays over the 90-day period which defers from a C-Visa which covers stays of up to 90-days. D- Visa regulation which is covered by cap 217 of the immigration act - requires every applicant to firstly hold a valid travel document (passport) which has to meet the validity of Maltese law, having a lawful purpose on which basis they are applying this means that Malta necessitates specific authorisation i.e. having supporting documentation covering the purpose of such a stay (e.g. family, study, work, investment). Requirements range from purpose to which the applicant is applying i.e. if its work related, study or family, financial stability of the said applicant, and the applicant must also provide proof of sufficient accommodation, a clean criminal record which is a valid police conduct certificate and fill out the necessary application concerning D-Visa.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>In Malta the family reunification status is not tied to categories, its mainly governed by the family reunification legislation 217.06 (https://legislation.mt/eli/sl/217.6/eng/pdf), this does not provide a list of categories but requires the applicant to be a third-country national (non-EU) and the applicant has to hold a Maltese residence permit for at least a year and should also provide reasonable prospects of obtaining such a permanent residence. Thus, the</p>


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			<p>category mentioned here is any article 4A residence permit which has been valid for a year and has been assessed as having reasonable prospects of such a permanent residence.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>According to Maltese legislation which implements the relevant and necessary EU framework, the family reunification requirement is only eligible for close family members of the applicant and of whom are currently residing abroad. The applicant (sponsor) must also meet certain conditions relating mainly to the lawfully residence in Malta, which is up to 2 years, have a satisfactory financial capacity to sponsor the said family member, coupled with adequate accommodation and health insurance. Having said this, the family member must critically meet all entry requirements stipulated by Identita, which also requires to establish if the relationship is genuine. Such decisions are usually given on a case-by-case basis, which gives the agency the right to refuse any applicants that do not satisfy the criteria on basis of public policy, national security or public health.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>NO – from a Maltese standpoint and according to legislation 217.06, general rule explains that when applying for family reunification the application is usually submitted by the said sponsor, meanwhile the relevant authorities (Identita) examine such an application while the family member is still residing outside of Malta. Having said this, if the applicant is benefiting from either a visa-free short stay or even holding a Schengen short stay visa this will not change anything, because such regulations are intended for short stays only and does not constitute</p>
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			<p>the authorisation to reside for the purpose of family reunification. Still, sometimes as according to Maltese legislation - Maltese law and authorities allow a limited discretion on this subject i.e. in certain and appropriate circumstances, the authority may or may not accept an application even if the family member is currently residing in Malta.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>NO – there are no nationality-based exemptions in this regard. from a Maltese standpoint where usually, the expected stay over exceeds the 90-days including for family reunification, it is required to have the long stay (D-Visa) prior to arrival in Malta regardless of the persons country of origin. Having said this, Maltese authorities does not apply an exclusive list of country exemptions for a long stay reunification visa.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>There is no legal foundation for nationality-based exceptions to cite because Malta does not apply country-specific exemptions for long-stay family reunification visas. Still, where relevant, the status-based exclusions align with EU free movement rules for Union citizens and their family members, and the wider EU framework on visas/entry conditions. However, visa exempt countries, are not obliged to apply for a National D visa for family reunification. But, as soon as they receive their AIPs they can travel and attend their biometric appointment.</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Netherlands</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>Yes, in the Netherlands normally third-country nationals who enjoy visa free-travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods and are not from a EU country, Liechtenstein, Norway, Iceland or Switzerland need a (multiple-entry) provisional residence permit (MVV), which is an entry visa (Type D) intended for persons who want to stay in the Netherlands for more than 90 days, but there are exceptions.[1]</p> <p>[1] Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), Provisional residence permit (MVV), https://ind.nl/en/provisional-residence-permit-mvv?utm_source=chatgpt.com</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>In the Netherlands, in order to be able to submit a successful application for family reunification, it is essential to be a family member of a person lawfully residing in the Netherlands (known as the “sponsor”).</p> <p>The sponsor must have a permanent residence permit or a temporary residence permit.[1] However, those that have a temporary residence permit as an exchange youth, au pair or for seasonal work or work experience cannot apply for family reunification.[2]</p> <p>A sponsor with temporary residence status can apply for family reunification with the following purposes of stay:</p>

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			<p>Student residence permit for university or higher professional education Work permit Residence permit cross-border service provider Intra-corporate transferee residence permit Residence as a family member (if the sponsor already has temporary residence as a family member) International protection Residence permit medical treatment Awaiting a naturalisation request Temporary humanitarian grounds (with certain exceptions, such as unaccompanied minors) Wealthy foreign national (if the sponsor has residence as a wealthy foreign national) Border guard of the United Kingdom's border control service[3] Section 29(2) of the Aliens Act 2000 states that anyone with an residence permit on the grounds of international protection can act as a sponsor for family reunification, including minors. However, the sponsor must submit the application for family reunification of their family members within three months after they have obtained a residence permit to be able to benefit from the more favourable conditions. After three months, the regular requirement will apply.[4]</p> <p>[1] EMN Netherlands, National contribution of the Netherlands 'Family reunification of third-country nationals: State of play of laws and practice', https://www.emnetherlands.nl/sites/default/files/2025-10/LEESVERSIE_Nederlandse%20bijdrage%20aan%20het%20EMN-onderzoek%20%E2%80%98Family%20Reunification%20of%20Third-Country%20Nationals%E2%80%99.pdf</p> <p>[2] Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), Een familie of gezinslid naar Nederland laten komen, https://ind.nl/nl/formulieren/3076.pdf</p> <p>[3] Aliens Act Implementation Guidelines (2000), B7/2.2, https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0012289/2026-01-01#Circulaire.divisieB7_Circulaire.divisie2_Circulaire.divisie2.2</p> <p>[4] Aliens Act 2000, section 29(4), https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0011823/2026-01-01#Hoofdstuk3_Afdeling4_Paragraaf1_Artikel29</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of</p>
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			<p>habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil? For a detailed explanation of the requirements, see the national contribution of the Netherlands to the EMN study 'Family reunification of third-country nationals: State of play of law and practice', chapter 9.2, section 3, page 37-50.[1]</p> <p>[1] EMN Netherlands, National contribution of the Netherlands 'Family reunification of third-country nationals: State of pl[ay of laws and practice', https://www.emnetherlands.nl/sites/default/files/2025-10/LEESVERSIE_Nederlandse%20bijdrage%20aan%20het%20EMN-onderzoek%20%E2%80%98Family%20Reunification%20of%20Third-Country%20Nationals%E2%80%99.pdf</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>No. For all categories of third country nationals, both the sponsor and the family member can lodge an application for family reunification.[1] Exceptions are made in cases where the family reunification concerns a child born in the Netherlands by non-Dutch parents. In this case only the sponsor (the parent) can apply for family reunification.[2] When the family reunification request involves an applicant wishing to come to or to stay in the Netherlands for residence with their Dutch minor child, only the third national parent can lodge an application, not the minor Dutch child.[3]</p> <p>Regarding the family reunification of sponsors who are beneficiaries of international protection, the sponsor lodges the application for family reunification. This is the preferred method of the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND).[4] However, it is also possible for family members of the sponsor to lodge an application themselves.[5]</p>
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			<p>If the sponsor submits an application for family reunification, this can be done either online via the website of the IND or by post. When an Unaccompanied minor (UAM) wishes to apply for family reunification, the legal guardian is responsible for lodging the application and Nidos (child protection for applicants and beneficiaries of international protection) will pay for the application fees.[6] The application procedure remains the same for UAMs, this can be done either online or by post.</p> <p>When the sponsor's family member submits an application, they must make an appointment at the Dutch diplomatic mission/consulate in the country of origin or the country of continuous residence. When there is no Dutch diplomatic mission/consulate in the territory of continuous residence or the country of origin, an appointment must be made at the nearest Dutch diplomatic mission/consulate. In case the applicant is under 12 years old, they must be accompanied by a legal representative that is either a parent with parental authority or a guardian.[7]</p> <p>Applications by the sponsor's family members are filled in at the Dutch diplomatic mission. The application form can only be submitted by post to the IND in the Netherlands.[8] If the family member is exempted from the Schengen D visa (regular provisional residence permit (MVV)) application, the application can be submitted online or by post.[9]</p> <p>[1] Ibid.</p> <p>[2] Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), Residence permit for child born in the Netherlands, https://ind.nl/en/residence-permits/family-and-partner/residence-permit-for-child-born-in-the-netherlands</p> <p>[3] Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), Residence with your minor Dutch child, https://ind.nl/en/residence-permits/family-and-partner/residence-with-your-minor-dutch-child-chavez</p> <p>[4] Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), Asylum family reunification, https://ind.nl/en/residence-permits/asylum/asylum-family-</p>
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			<p>reunification#process</p> <p>[5] Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), Apply for MVV and residence permit from abroad, https://ind.nl/en/apply-for-mvv-and-residence-permit-from-abroad</p> <p>[6] Nidos, Gezinshereniging, https://www.nidos.nl/gezinshereniging</p> <p>[7] Ibid.</p> <p>[8] Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), Application for admission and residence 'to stay with a family member' (foreign national), https://ind.nl/en/forms/9511.pdf</p> <p>[9] Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), Residence permit for partner, https://ind.nl/en/residence-permits/family-and-partner/residence-permit-for-partner#application-forms</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>In general, the Netherlands requires third-country nationals to be in possession of a visa. Though, there are some exceptions.[1]</p> <p>[1] Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), Mvv exceptions, https://ind.nl/en/mvv-exemptions</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>In the Netherlands, the exceptions are based on national legislation.</p>
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<p>EMN NCP Poland</p>		<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>No.</p> <p>Under the current Act of 12 December 2013 on foreigners, the foreigners, while staying on Polish territory under visa – free regime, who wants to stay longer than 90 days, can apply for temporary residence permit. If the application was submitted during authorized stay in Poland, the foreigner can stay legally till the end of the legalization procedure.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>Temporary residence permit is granted to the foreigner who arrives to Polish territory or stays there in purpose to family reunification and is a family member of the foreigner holding residence permit of one of those types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> permanent residence permit long-term EU residence permit refugee status subsidiary protection subsequent temporary residence permit at least 2 years and directly before applying for residence permit for family member - the permit granted for period no shorter than 1 year temporary residence permit for researchers temporary residence permit for long-term mobility of researchers

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			<p>temporary residence for high – skilled workers ICT temporary residence permit the right of residence or the right of permanent residence of a citizen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland referred to in Article 10(1)(b) and (d) of the Withdrawal Agreement temporary residence permit in purpose of long-term mobility of EU Blue Card holder humanitarian stay</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>Requirements: insurance, stable and regular source of income, place to stayed ensured. If the TCN stays abroad, the application on behalf of family member is submitted by sponsor. It requires written agreement of that TCN or his/her legal representative. If the TCN already stays on Polish territory, s/he applies on his own.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>NO Under current law there is no such requirment. If the TCN stays abroad, the application on behalf of family member is submitted by sponsor. It requires written agreement of that TCN or his/her legal representative.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification</p>
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			<p>issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa. No, long-term visa is not required to apply for temporary residence for family member.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)? N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Slovakia</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil? No.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification? In the Slovak Republic it is not the sponsor who applies for family reunification but the person who wants to be reunited – applicant. Slovak legislation does not require an applicant for family reunification to hold a specific type of residence permit prior to applying for family reunification. He/she can apply without having any residence status in Slovakia at all, provided that the sponsor meets the legislative requirements. The applicant then can apply for: Temporary residence for family reunion, more information available</p>

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			<p>here https://www.mic.iom.sk/en/download/info-cards/item/download/1524_db2c71a3c8c2323444abe3319117492f.h...Permanent residence for 5 years or permanent residence for unlimited time, more information available here https://www.mic.iom.sk/en/family/permanent-residence-for-the-purpose-of-a-family-reunion.html</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>Please refer to information provided in the links. Temporary residence for family reunion https://www.mic.iom.sk/en/download/info-cards/item/download/1524_db2c71a3c8c2323444abe3319117492f.h..., Permanent residence for 5 years or permanent residence for unlimited time https://www.mic.iom.sk/en/family/permanent-residence-for-the-purpose-of-a-family-reunion.html</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>No. Applying from within the Slovak Republic is only optional, not mandatory. The applicant can also apply at the Slovak Embassy abroad.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any</p>
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			<p>exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>This is not the case of the Slovak Republic. See our responses and information under the provided links above.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>NA</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Slovenia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>No.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>The right to family reunification in accordance with Directive 2003/86 is granted to a foreigner residing in the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of a permanent residence permit, and to a foreigner who has been residing in the Republic of Slovenia for the last year on the basis of a temporary residence permit and has a temporary residence permit issued (extended) with a validity of at least one year.</p> <p>A foreigner who resides in the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of a temporary residence</p>

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			<p>permit for the purpose of seasonal work or as a cross border worker is not granted the right to family reunification.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>The general requirements are as follows: a valid travel document that is valid for at least three months beyond the intended residence in the Republic of Slovenia, adequate health insurance, covering at least emergency medical services in the Republic of Slovenia and sufficient means of subsistence, whereby the sponsor must demonstrate sufficient funds both for himself/herself and for all family members who reside with him/her or wish to reside with him/her in the Republic of Slovenia, certificate for clear criminal record and proof of family ties.</p> <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>No. Only a foreigner who is reuniting family members (sponsor) can submit the application, which may be submitted to a diplomatic mission or consulate of the Republic of Slovenia abroad or to any administrative unit in the Republic of Slovenia.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p>
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			<p>N/A</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Spain</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are third-country nationals who enjoy visa-free travel regime for short stays in the EU but who wish to reside for longer periods (1 year or beyond 1 year) required to apply for long-term visa? YES/NO. If YES, what are the requirements that the applicant must fulfil?</p> <p>The Royal Decree 1155/2024, of 19 November, approving the Regulation of Organic Law 4/2000, of 11 January, on the rights and freedoms of foreigners in Spain and their social integration (hereinafter RLOEX), develops the different types of visas provided for the Spanish legal system.</p> <p>Chapter IV regulates long term visas and classifies them into various categories according to the type of stay or residence authorisation that the foreign national intends to apply for in Spain. To this end, it distinguishes between the long term stay visa for studies, pupil mobility, voluntary service or training activities; residence visas; visas of an extraordinary nature; and visas for the purpose of seeking employment.</p> <p>The requirements will vary depending on the type of visa you are applying for. As an example, if you apply for any of the residence visas, a series of general requirements is required, in addition to others specific according to the type of residence authorization you intend to apply for. The general requirements for this scenario are:</p> <p>a) That the foreign person provides the application form, duly completed and signed.</p>

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			<p>b) Not to be irregularly in Spanish territory.</p> <p>c) Not appear as rejectable in the territorial space of countries with which Spain has signed an agreement in this regard.</p> <p>d) That the foreign person provides a valid passport or travel document, recognized as valid in Spain, with a minimum validity of one year.</p> <p>e) In the event that the applicant is of criminal age, have no criminal record in the countries where he has resided for the last five years for crimes provided for in Spanish law.</p> <p>f) That the foreign person is the holder of an initial authorization of residence and / or work, when this is required.</p> <p>g) That the foreign person complies with the specific visa requirements established in the procedure for each type of authorization.</p> <p>h) That the foreign person has paid the visa processing fee.</p> <p>That the foreign person provides a medical certificate to prove that he/she does not suffer from any of the diseases that may have serious public health implications in accordance with the provisions of the International Health Regulations 2005.</p> <p>2. What are the categories of residence permits that entitle the applicant to apply for family reunification?</p> <p>The temporary residence authorisation for family reunification may be applied for when the sponsor holds a residence authorisation in Spain and, as a general rule, has already resided for at least one year and has applied for authorisation to reside for at least one further year. However, depending on the category of family member to be reunited, it may be required, in lieu of the one year residence requirement, that the sponsor hold a long term residence permit or an EU long term residence permit granted in Spain.</p> <p>3. If the third-country national has family members residing in his country of origin or of</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.1 Specifics of the procedure for family reunification

			<p>habitual residence and wants to apply for family reunification what are the requirements that the sponsor and the family member must fulfil?</p> <p>The sponsor shall be required to provide evidence of the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Possession of sufficient fixed and regular resources for his or her own maintenance and for that of the members of his or her family; the amount shall depend on the composition of the family unit.• Availability of adequate housing to meet his or her needs and those of his or her family.• Possession of health insurance covering the sponsor and the family members to be reunited.• Where the sponsor has other minor children under his or her care who are of compulsory schooling age and are already present in Spain, such children shall be enrolled in school.• Not being, where applicable, within the period of a commitment not to return to Spain undertaken by the foreign national upon voluntarily returning to his or her country of origin.• Not constituting a threat to public policy, public security or public health, which shall be verified through confirmation of the absence of criminal records in Spain and assessment of the corresponding police report.• Payment of the fee for the processing of the procedure. <p>4. Must the family members apply from within your Member State (when benefiting from a visa free regime or a Schengen visa)? YES/NO. If you answer NO, please explain.</p> <p>No. The application for a temporary residence visa for the purpose of family reunification shall be submitted within two months from the notification of the granting of the authorisation to the sponsor, together with the documentation proving the family ties, before the Spanish consular office. That is, the application for the temporary residence authorisation for family reunification shall be submitted by the sponsor in Spain before the competent immigration office, whereas the visa application shall be submitted before the consular office in the country</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.1 Specifics of the procedure for family reunification

			<p>of origin by the family member to be reunited.</p> <p>5. If Member States generally require a long-term visa for the purpose of family reunification issued by the country of origin or by the country of permanent residence, are there any exceptions from this requirement? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please specify citizens of which countries are exempt from the requirement to be in possession of a long-term visa.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>6. If you answer YES to Q5, what is the legal basis for such exceptions (bilateral or international agreements, legal grounds provided in the national legislation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p>
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