

## RESEARCHERS DIRECTIVE

**State of play.** The Commission is expected to present at the beginning of 2013 a proposal to amend and merge the directive on students with the one on researchers with the aim to promote greater mobility of students and researchers.

### Background information:

#### Directive of 12 October 2005

- **Official name:** Council [directive 2005/71/EC](#) on a specific procedure for admitting third-country nationals for the purposes of scientific research
- **Objective of the directive.** Since researchers play an essential role in driving EU growth and competitiveness, the directive provides for a fast track procedure for the admission of non-EU researchers for stays of more than three months if the researcher has a “hosting agreement” with a research organisation. Research organisations play a major role in this process: once included in a list of “approved research organisations”, they certify the status of the researcher in a hosting agreement with the researcher. The document confirms the existence of a valid research project, as well as the possession by the researcher of the necessary scientific skills, sufficient resources and health insurance (a non-EU researcher coming to the EU to carry out independent research would not be covered by the directive). [Summary](#).
- **Transposition deadline:** 12 October 2007
- **Evaluation:** [Evaluation report](#) of 20 December 2011 of the European Commission on the application of the directive.
  - The report identified a need to provide clear and unambiguous definitions of researchers' rights, to make clear distinctions between permits for researchers and other types of permits and to provide better guidance and information on the possibilities provided by the Directive.

#### **Improving directive 2005/71/EC:**

**The Commission is expected to present an amended proposal at the beginning of 2013 (merged with an amended proposal on students).**

### More information:

- Background information on the website of the [European Commission](#).