

SPAIN
2018

ANNUAL REPORT
ON MIGRATION AND ASYLUM



GOBIERNO
DE ESPAÑA

MINISTERIO
DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES, UNIÓN EUROPEA
Y COOPERACIÓN

MINISTERIO
DE JUSTICIA

MINISTERIO
DEL INTERIOR

MINISTERIO
DE TRABAJO, MIGRACIONES
Y SEGURIDAD SOCIAL

The European Migration Network (EMN) is an initiative of the European Commission. The EMN has been established via Council Decision 2008/38/EC and is cofinancially supported by the European Union.

Its objective is to meet the information needs of EU institutions and of Member States' authorities and institutions by providing up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information on migration and asylum, with a view to supporting policymaking in the European Union in these areas. The EMN also serves to provide the general public with such information.

To that end, the EMN has a network of National Contact Points (NCPs).

The Spanish NCP is composed by experts from the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, and Ministry of Justice and the General Prosecutor's Office, It is coordinated by the Deputy General Directorate for Legal Affairs of the Directorate General for Migrations, General Secretariat for Immigration and Emigration, Secretariat of State for Migrations.

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ANNUAL REPORT 2018 ON MIGRATION AND ASYLUM
IN SPAIN
NATIONAL REPORT (PART 1)
[CONTRIBUTION TO EMN AND TO EASO ANNUAL REPORTS]

Summary of Changes to the National Migration/Asylum System in 2018

0. Overarching changes to the national migration and asylum system in 2018

In June 2018 there was a change of Government. For the new Government, **migration** has become a **key element** of its policies, which has entailed a reassessment of the migration policy followed until then by the previous Government.

This change of migration policy is based on five basic pillars: (1) orderly, regular and secure migration; (2) combatting irregular immigration; (3) guaranteeing humanitarian assistance to those who arrive; (4) promoting a European policy on migration and asylum, which will strengthen collaboration with countries of transit, origin and destination; and (5) commitment to the integration of immigrants and refugees.

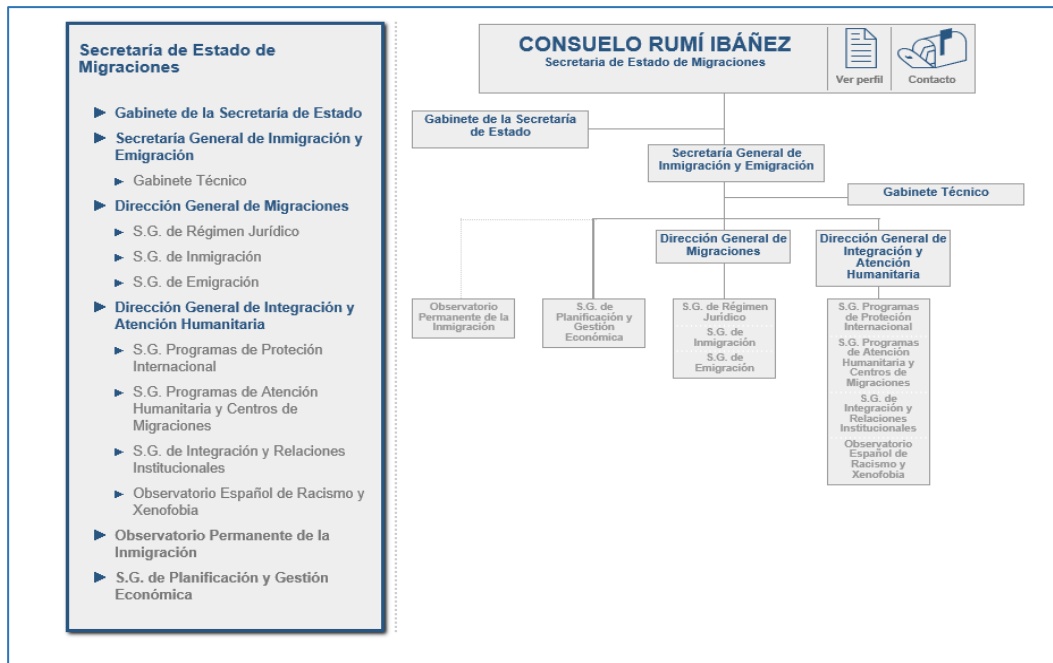
In this regard, the term "Migration" has been restored in the name of the Ministry: **Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security**, within which the **State Secretary for Migration** has been created, which has a General Secretariat and two Directorates General, one for Migration and one for Integration and Humanitarian Assistance.

It must be highlighted that the **Delegated Committee of the Government for Migration Issues** has been re-established, made up of ministries with related powers. This Committee has the purpose of coordinating and facilitating an overview of the migration phenomenon in Spain.

Autonomous communities and local authorities have also been worked with closely, with the Sectorial Conference on Immigration being held for the first time since 2015. At this Conference, the following pillars of the immigration policy were highlighted: **1. Strengthening and promotion of legal migration channels; 2. Integration** of people who arrive and who may stay in Spain; **3. Asylum:** Government commitment to both the defence of the right to asylum and guarantees of all applicants as well as the need to address the reform of the common European asylum system; **4. Cooperation with countries of origin and transit; 5.** Finally, the **"European outlook"** which migration management must have, given that it is a field of such magnitude that it would be very difficult for a single nation to resolve.

In the multilateral sphere, Spain has supported the Global Agreement for Orderly, Secure and Regular Migration adopted in Marrakesh in December. As a result of this, Spain will work on the execution of the objectives of this Global Agreement.

Organigram of the State Secretary for Migration



Source: Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security (hereafter, MITRAMISS).

1. Legal Migration

As mentioned in the previous point, **the coordination of legal, secure and orderly migration** is one of the **pillars** of the Spanish migration policy.

The initial authorisations to foreign nationals from third countries granted in 2018 have exceeded the

On the 31st of December 2018, there were 5.4 million foreign persons in Spain (Permanent Immigration Observatory), of which 3.27 million are within the regime of citizens of the Union and 2.14 million are in the general regime. Within the general regime, 83.9% are long-term residents. Additionally, according to the data of the National Statistics Institute available in December 2018, in 2017 a total of 66,498 people accessed Spanish nationality.

Therefore, the image of immigration in Spain is that of consolidated immigration.

The establishment of legal migration channels is a priority for Spain with two objectives. Firstly, Spain, like the rest of Europe, is ageing. Spain will need the net arrival of 270,000 immigrants each year from now until 2050, according to the report on demographic forecasts published by AIREF. Additionally, reports by the OECD and IMF contain forecasts trending in this way. Furthermore, the construction of these bridges opens channels for collaboration with countries of origin and destination. If we achieve the design of an adequate and successful migration policy, the immigration will be regular, orderly and secure, and will be beneficial for the migrant, societies and countries of origin and destination.

Among the main developments made in 2018 are the following:

1. The **transposition** of Directive (EU) 2016/801 has been carried out, regarding the entry and residence requirements of nationals of third countries for the purposes of research, studies, internships, volunteering, student exchange programmes or education projects, and au pair placements. As a result of this transposition, regarding EU researchers, a new residence authorisation has been created which, among other rights, incorporates the right to EU intramobility and has simplified the migration procedures for foreign researchers who already have an authorisation in another State of the Union, also allowing them, once the research activity has ended, to stay in Spain to seek employment. In terms of international students, procedural facilitation has been introduced for their admission (which can be applied for from Spain), the intramobility procedure within the EU has been regulated, and

a new authorisation has been created so that students who have finished their studies can remain in Spain to seek employment or to start a business project. Finally, a new residence authorisation has been created for participating in an internship programme. With this transposition, Spain has progressed in the configuration of the migration policy as an element for enhancing the attraction and retention of foreign talent in line with the Strategy for the Internationalisation of Spanish Universities (2015-2020).

2. A **new Order** has been approved, Order TMS/1426/2018 of the 26th of December, regulating the collective management of hiring in origin for 2019 ([GECCO Order](#)) which elaborates on the different facets offered by the instrument for hiring in origin, removing the limitation of the agricultural sector, in order to fulfil a double objective. Firstly, coordinating secure, orderly and regular migration channels, advancing in the fulfilment of the sustainable development goals of the 2030 Agenda as well as in the Global Compact for Migration. Secondly, it contributes to the coverage of uncovered workers' needs for workers already residing in Spain.
3. With regard to circular migration, for the 2018/2019 red fruit harvest, 19,000 seasonal workers are forecast to come from Morocco. In order to improve the programme, significant improvements have been introduced for this year in terms of procedure and development.

A **pilot project for visas for seeking employment for children and grandchildren of Spanish people in Argentina** is being worked on. An initial capacity of up to 500 visas has been forecast for 2019, which may be increased to up to 1,500. These visas will allow entry to Spain to seek employment during a three month period, and if employment is found, authorisation to work will be obtained quickly without the national employment situation being applied. This selection will take into account, among other elements, their profile, and work is being carried out with the Public State Employment Service and the business community in order to guarantee alignment of skills and abilities of candidates and the needs of the Spanish labour market.

4. Work is also being carried out in the framework of the European initiative for legal migration pilot projects, in the identification of a pilot project in Morocco. "YOUNG PEOPLE AS AGENTS OF CHANGE", will entail a short-term mobility plan between Spain and Morocco for study purposes, which will allow Moroccan participants to improve and strengthen their skills and knowledge through studying a Master's Degree in Spain in key socioeconomic sectors for Morocco. Participants must also design a project related with the studies undertaken, which would be implemented in Morocco after completion of the Master's Degree. It is planned for the ten best projects to receive 10,000 euros for implementation. The number of participants will be around 100 Moroccan postgraduate students, and it will last for 21 months.
5. Although the order does not set a quota for stable hiring, it establishes a channel which will allow, in the case of being planned in the framework of a legal migration project or required to cover certain needs of the market, stable hiring for 2019.
6. Another of the lines of action consists of improving the attraction of qualified employment and the strengthening of the Unit for Large Companies and Strategic Collectives.
7. Finally, work is being carried out in collaboration with institutions on foreign persons regulations which guarantee a homogenous application of regulations by foreign persons' offices.

2. International Protection including Asylum

In 2018 Spain received 55,570 asylum applications, 75% more than in 2017, when 31,739 requests were received; as well as an increase of the existing stock of applications.

The significant increase of the figures has required a restructuring of the available resources (human resources, IT) at the Spanish Asylum Office (hereafter OAR), as well as other organisational aspects (access to the protection system, quality of management of the procedure, as well as increased transparency).

In detail, the measures adopted include the following:

1. Human resources:

On the 27th of July 2018, the Government approved Royal Decree 6/2018, approving an extraordinary public employment offer for enhancing means of refugee assistance, through the

coverage of 231 new posts (190 of which will be dedicated to processing work, and 31 to support personnel).

Currently, the incorporation of the personnel who will occupy these posts is underway. Additionally, 4 intermediate level persons have formed part of the OAR since the end of 2018.

2. Information, technology and communication:

The changes in this area encompass the development of a new computer application which is currently in the phase of compliance with the applicable provisions for acquisition, the design and development phase beginning in a few months.

3. Increased transparency and visibility:

On the institutional website of the OAR, a space has been created which allows greater visibility and where the most important aspects of the procedure are available. Furthermore, additional information on international protection statistics has been included.

4. Management of levels of quality of the procedure, in particular:

- Decentralisation of access to the procedure, empowering the Police for assisting in the registration of new applications, allowing the OAR to focus on more substantial and important aspects.
- New internal directives for the processing of cases, incorporating existing Spanish and EU jurisprudence, as well as EASO instructions.
- Increased human resources in accelerated procedures (for example on the border) covered 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- Action protocols for disembarkation after life-saving and rescue operations on the Spanish coast, two action protocols having been approved on the 5th of December 2018 for coordination of action of the ministries involved.
- Creation of focal points in quality aspects in order to achieve an effective processing system.
- Training of new team members, in collaboration with ACNUR, EASO and the Spanish Ministry of the Presidency.
- Equality: the OAR is promoting personnel training on equality, particularly in departments where there is a direct relationship with the beneficiaries of international protection.
- Interaction between all relevant actors and civil society, such as CEAR, ACCEM and ACNUR, in order to improve some of their aspects with regard to processing, the efficiency of the receipt system and future challenges in the context of the reform of the CEAS.

Work is also being carried out on a redefinition of the system to guarantee the participation of autonomous communities, establishing a regulatory framework which guarantees both the balanced distribution of applicants and beneficiaries of international protection and homogenous reception conditions throughout the national territory.

With regard to reception, this is a priority of the migration policy which has been encompassed in the creation of a State Secretary for Migration in the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security, within which the **new Directorate General of Integration and Humanitarian Assistance** is integrated, whose priority is adequately attending to both beneficiaries and applicants of international protection.

The Emergency Reception and Referral Centres (CAED) have been created, which allow the analysis of the needs of the migrants for their subsequent referral. 1,030 places of this type have been opened.

An action protocol is being created to face the arrival of large contingents of irregular immigrants on Spanish coasts.

In terms of places of the International Protection System, there are still 416, although those managed by NGOs have increased, with a combined total of 8,807 on the 17th of October.

The Government is also committed to resettlement as an orderly channel for the arrival of people who require international protection and who are in third States. In December 2018, the Government approved the National Plan for resettlement for moving 1200 people to Spain from third States, who will potentially be beneficiaries of international protection.

3. Unaccompanied Minors and Other Vulnerable Groups

The constant increase of arrivals of Unaccompanied Minors in the Spanish territory, particularly during 2018, has had a significant impact on the means and resources of public entities available for the protection of minors in Autonomous Communities and the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta and Melilla. In order to attend to the needs of these minors, the General State Administration directly granted subsidies for Autonomous Communities and the cities of Ceuta and Melilla amounting to a total of 40 million euros (Royal Decree 1340/2018). This has been a significant budget increase for these territorial administrations, which in previous years had to be reduced for the cities of Ceuta and Melilla, and with which the necessary assistance in the rest of the Autonomous Communities is strengthened.

4. Integration

As has been stated, integration is another of the pillars of the new Spanish migration policy.

Work is being carried out on a Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration, with the objective of structuring the integration policy, guaranteeing social cohesion and curbing discourse against immigration. This plan is aimed at all citizens and is based on the basic principles of equality, citizenship, interculturality and social inclusion.

Additionally, it is intended to strengthen the role of the Forum for the Social Integration of Immigrants, as well as the recovery of the fund for integration.

With regard to integration in the labour market, in April 2018, the Council of Ministers approved the Strategic Plan for Inspection of Labour and Social Security for the 2018-2020 period, among the priorities of which **the insertion and integration of immigrants linked with employment** must be highlighted, in the framework of a common European policy on migration and asylum.

Another of the new elements in 2018 was the approval of the **2018-2020 Management Plan for Decent Work**, which emphasises the insertion and integration of immigrants in the labour market being carried out under strict conditions of equality with regard to national workers.

5. Citizenship and Statelessness

According to the data of the National Statistics Institute available in December 2018, in 2017 Spanish nationality was granted to 66,498 applicants.

6. Borders, Schengen and Visas

No significant changes.

7. Irregular Migration including Migrant Smuggling

During 2018, a total of 62,126 people arrived on our coasts irregularly, while in 2017 this figure was 27,253. However, if this is compared with the number of foreign persons arriving regularly, this figure appears to be of a limited size.

Despite this, the increase is significant and is a reflection of the strong migration pressure to which Spain, as well as other nearby countries such as Morocco, are subjected.

In order to attend to arrivals on coasts, particularly during summer 2018, resources have been enhanced (Emergency Plan) and Emergency Reception and Referral Centres have been created. Extraordinarily, assistance of migrants arriving at ports or on coasts has been financed by the Spanish Red Cross.

Additionally, improvements have been made to integrated systems for external monitoring (SIVE) in order to combat irregular immigration.

As a key element, cooperation with countries of origin and transit has been maintained and strengthened to prevent irregular migration.

Morocco, like Spain, is under immense migration pressure. It is therefore appropriate to seek new forms of European financing for Morocco in line with the importance of the migration challenge.

Thanks to Spain, the European Union has allocated an economic sum to Morocco for the development of policies, not only for control of borders, but also for integration.

Furthermore, in December, the President of the Government travelled to Mali. During his visit, he highlighted the importance of combatting emigration mafias which operate in Sahel, and agreed the implementation of a pilot project with the Prime Minister of Mali for assisted voluntary return for immigrants from the country.

8. Trafficking in Human Beings

Human trafficking is a profound violation of people's human rights, dignity and freedom, and violates the highest values of the Spanish system, enshrined in the Constitution. The Government has made a firm commitment to fight against trafficking, with multiple instruments, plans and actions in line with international commitments.

Additionally, the Government announced that it would work on the creation and approval of an Integrated Law against human trafficking. The Vice President of the Government stated in the Congress of Deputies that an Integrated Law against human trafficking was needed urgently, as the figures are "scandalous", particularly with regard to trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes.

The work that Spain has been doing in this area has been acknowledged by the GRETA Report of 2018. Nevertheless, combatting human trafficking must continue. For this purpose, preventive activities have been increased through administrative inspections in work centres.

Additionally, 4 pillars of action by the State Attorney General can be highlighted:

1. Increased investigations related with trafficking for labour exploitation.
2. Creation of an Annex to the Framework Protocol on minors who are victims of trafficking.
3. Investigation of trafficking crimes for the purpose of forced marriages has been enhanced and improved.
4. The case of slave children has been analysed.

Additionally, development of the 2015-2018 Comprehensive Plan to Combat the Trafficking of Women and Girls for sexual exploitation has continued and various projects aimed at training and awareness have been financed, executed by non-profit entities.

Furthermore, the National Police Plan Against Human Trafficking for sexual exploitation continues to operate, as well as the Central Brigade Against Human Trafficking, attached to the General Department of Foreign Persons and Borders of the National Police.

9. Return and Readmission

The existing agreements on readmission and return of immigrants are integrated within a global vision of cooperation with countries of origin and transit with the objective of jointly preventing irregular movement, as well as combatting human trafficking and smuggling, and in the case of migrants being in an irregular situation in Spain, proposing their return.

It is therefore considered essential to enter into agreements on the return of migrants which, taking into account all interests at stake, disincentivise irregular immigration and human trafficking and smuggling networks, in turn allowing the channelling of immigration toward regular channels and enhancing international cooperation on the issue.

As is well known, the European Union emphasises the need to effectively and efficiently apply existing return agreements and promote the negotiation of new agreements in this regard. In all cases, Spain favours voluntary returns. Nevertheless, agreements which favour readmissions in cases of forced returns are considered essential.

Spain has signed 16 bilateral readmission agreements for people in irregular situations. Additionally, the cooperation framework agreements on immigration signed with Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, Mali and Niger, encompass commitments of the parties in order, within available possibilities and resources, to mutually assist each other in

aspects such as voluntary and assisted return programmes and police and operational assistance to combat irregular immigration, etc.

New agreements not having been signed does not mean that no progress is being made in cooperation in the field of return and readmission, as this may materialise through different instruments and not only through formal treaties. Cooperation on returns requires a variety of instruments which are adapted to different situations, so that voluntary return instruments also coincide along with forced repatriations.

Voluntary return programmes offer the possibility of returning foreign persons (immigrants, asylum seekers, refugees, people with subsidiary protection status) who state their desire to return to their country of origin and who fulfil the general and specific requirements of each modality of the programme.

The *social assistance voluntary return programme*, aimed at immigrant nationals of third countries in a situation of special vulnerability is the largest. Up to October 2018, 784 cases were registered.

In December, the President of the Government travelled to Mali. During his visit, he highlighted the importance of combatting emigration mafias which operate in Sahel, and agreed the implementation of a pilot project with the Prime Minister of Mali for assisted voluntary return for immigrants from the country.

0 OVERARCHING CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL MIGRATION AND ASYLUM SYSTEM IN 2018

Please describe any overarching changes in the national migration and asylum system that have taken place in 2018. These are likely to result from a change of government or an overarching policy change that affects the overall approach to policymaking which in turn accounts for changes reported in the specific policy areas.

Were there any overall changes in the national migration and asylum system in 2018? Y/N

If **yes**, please elaborate below, stating the drivers for the change / intended impact if applicable.

On the 2nd of June 2018, the Official State Bulletin published the appointment of the new President of the Government; with this, there was therefore **a change of Government and a reassessment of the migration policy as a political priority**, based on several basic pillars: a policy of orderly, regular and secure migration, combatting irregular immigration, guaranteeing humanitarian assistance to those arriving and promoting a European policy on migration and asylum, strengthening collaboration with countries of transit, origin and destination. The commitment to the integration of immigrants and refugees is another of the essential pillars of the migration policy. In this regard, the term "Migration" has been restored in the name of the Ministry: **Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security**, within which the **State Secretary for Migration** has been created, in turn creating two Directorates General – one for Migration and another for Integration and Humanitarian Assistance.

It must be highlighted that the **Delegated Committee of the Government for Migration Issues** has been re-established, made up of ministries with related powers. This Committee has the purpose of coordinating and facilitating an overview of the migration phenomenon in Spain.

Autonomous communities and local authorities have also been worked with closely, with the **Sectorial Conference on Immigration** being held for the first time since 2015. At this Conference, the following pillars of the immigration policy were highlighted: **1. Strengthening and promotion of legal migration channels; 2. Integration** of people who arrive and who may stay in Spain; **3. Asylum:** Government commitment to both the defence of the right to asylum and guarantees of all applicants as well as the need to address the reform of the common European asylum system; **4. Cooperation with countries of origin and transit; 5.** Finally, the **"European outlook"** which migration management must have, given that it is a field of such magnitude that it would be very difficult for a single nation to resolve.

In the multilateral sphere, Spain has supported the Global Agreement for Orderly, Secure and Regular Migration adopted in Marrakesh in December. As a result of this, Spain will work on the execution of the objectives of this Global Agreement.

1 LEGAL MIGRATION

1.1 TRANSPOSITION OF EU LEGISLATION ON LEGAL MIGRATION

Please provide a 'snapshot' on the status of transposition of each of the EU Directives relating to legal migration listed below as of (the end of) 2018. If developments have taken place in 2018 in terms of the implementation of these Directives, please elaborate these in the respective sections below.

EU Legislation	Equivalent National Legislation	Status*	Additional information
<i>Directive on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country-nationals for the purpose of research, studies, training ...¹ (23 May 2018)</i>	<u>Law 14/2013 of the 27th of September supporting entrepreneurs and their internationalisation and Organic Law 4/2000 and its Development Regulation (the alterations were introduced through Royal Decree Law 11/2018 of the 31st of August),</u>	a) In force	A new residence authorisation has been created for EU researchers. Migration processes have been simplified for foreign researchers who already

1. ¹ Directive (EU) [2016/801](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of research, studies, training, voluntary service, pupil exchange schemes or educational projects and au pairing.

	on transposition of directives on protection of pension commitments for workers, prevention of money laundering and entry and residence requirements of nationals of third countries, modifying Law 39/2015, of the 1 st of October on the common administrative procedure for public administrations.		<p>have an authorisation in another State of the Union.</p> <p>The procedure on intramobility within the EU has been regulated.</p> <p>Procedural facilitation has been introduced for the admission of international students.</p> <p>A new authorisation has been created so that students who have completed their studies can remain in Spain to seek employment or start a business project.</p> <p>A new residence authorisation has been created for participation in an internship programme.</p> <p>See heading 1.3 below</p>
<i>Directive on the conditions of entry and stay of third-country nationals for the purpose of employment as seasonal workers (30 September 2016)²</i>	Organic Law 4/2000 of the 11 th of January on the Rights and Freedoms of Foreign Persons in Spain and their Social Integration and its Regulation are in accordance with Directive 2014/36/EU	a) In force	This Law encompasses everything indicated in the Directive for seasonal workers, therefore it has not been necessary to transpose this Directive.
<i>Directive on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals in the framework of an intra-corporate transfer (29 November 2016)³</i>	Law 14/2013 of the 27 th of September on support for entrepreneurs and their internationalisation, modified by Law 25/2015 of the 25 th of July in articles 73 and 74.	a) In force	This Law creates a residence authorisation for ICT-EU intracorporate transfer. This authorisation is included in Law 14/2013 through the modification made by Law 25/2015 of the 25 th of July.

*Please state whether the equivalent national legislation is a) in force; b) passed but not in force c) in progress; d) not applicable.

1.2 ECONOMIC MIGRATION

1.2.1. ADMISSION POLICIES OF SPECIFIC CATEGORIES OF THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS

Please describe any **new** concrete developments regarding admission of the following categories of third-country nationals. Please state the driver for the change / intended impact (e.g. incentive mechanisms, measures to prevent mis-use) if applicable.

2. ² Directive 2014/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the conditions of entry and stay of third-country nationals for the purpose of employment as seasonal workers.
3. ³ Directive 2014/66/EU on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals in the framework of an intra-corporate transfer

1.2.1.1 Highly skilled/qualified workers

Were there any new developments in relation to highly skilled/qualified workers in 2018? YES.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please include one development per row and indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below. If needed, please add additional rows to the table below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>Work is being carried out on the development of criteria which, after five years from the entry into force of the residence authorisation for highly qualified professionals, allows its proper application to be guaranteed.</p> <p>Maintenance controls have been resumed to prevent the misuse of this modality, for example, through the verification of social security contributions made.</p> <p>Strengthening of the Unit for Large Companies. Due to the sustained increase of authorisations processed since its entry into force, a strengthening plan is being worked on: temporary personnel enhancement plan and search for channels to improve the presentation of documentation, and thereby streamline processing.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
<p>Development of the 2017-2027 Spanish Economy Internationalisation Strategy has continued, whose measures include the promotion of international mobility including highly qualified workers. The most notable actions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaboration with other institutions such as ICEX España for the promotion of exports and investments. - Collaboration with Business Schools of renowned prestige - Third call of the Rising Startup Spain Programme for the attraction of international entrepreneurs. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

1.2.1.2 Intra-corporate transferees

Were there any new developments in relation to intra-corporate transferees in 2018? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>By virtue of the transposition of the ICT Directive, in Spain there are two residence authorisations for intracorporate transfers.</p> <p>Firstly, <u>the ICT-UE residence authorisation</u>, with the right to EU intramobility for managers, specialists and employees in training. Secondly, <u>the national ICT residence authorisation</u>, for transfers of categories other than those previously mentioned. The definition of the national authorisation is broad and encompasses certain categories of service commerce (MODE 4), such as service providers.</p> <p>It must be highlighted that the holders of an ICT-EU residence authorisation issued by another State of the Union may be displaced to Spain following communication to the UGE, regardless of the duration of their mobility, the authorisation issued by the other State being valid for residence in Spain.</p> <p>In 2018, work continued on the promotion of these forms, without regulatory changes having occurred.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

1.2.1.3 Seasonal workers

Were there any new developments in relation to seasonal workers in 2018? YES.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
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<p>Seasonal migration is essential for Spain, particularly in the agricultural sector. Thus, since 2012, the same collective management order for workers has been extended, limiting the hiring of foreign persons outside of seasonal activities and in the agricultural sector.</p> <p>After monitoring the results of the Valletta Summit and with Spain's adoption of the Global Compact for Migration, it is necessary to elaborate on the coordination of secure, orderly and regular migration channels, which constitute a priority objective for the current Government; and with regard to seasonal activity, open it to other activity sectors.</p> <p>For this purpose, the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security approved the GECCO Order, a new order which elaborates on the different facets offered by the hiring in origin instrument, removing the limitation of the agricultural sector, in order to fulfil a <u>double objective</u>. Firstly, coordinating secure, orderly and regular migration channels, advancing in the fulfilment of the sustainable development goals of the 2030 Agenda as well as in the Global Compact for Migration. Secondly, it contributes to the coverage of uncovered workers' needs for workers already residing in Spain.</p> <p>During 2018, seasonal migration figures increased exponentially. According to the data available for 2016-2017 season, 5,041 authorisations were granted. In the 2017-2018 season, this figure was 16,832.</p> <p>Seasonal or harvest hiring may have a maximum duration of nine months within a period of twelve consecutive months. In principle, it is not limited to a specific activity sector, although it is mainly concentrated in the agricultural sector.</p> <p><u>As a good practice</u>, the circular migration programme with Morocco for the red fruit harvest in Huelva must be highlighted. This year, 19,000 seasonal workers are forecast to come from Morocco who will then return to their country. With regard to the procedure and development of the harvest, significant improvements have been introduced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation of the harvest and cooperation with the Moroccan labour authorities have strengthened, making it possible for selection in origin to be carried out correctly. - Moroccan authorities have announced the development of cultural activities for workers and Spanish classes to improve their experience. - Meetings with social agents of the province of Huelva and with non-Governmental organisations have been multiplied. - It will be encouraged for there to be mediators who carry out social work and act as a permanent contact for workers. They will help them with their needs and be available if any query or problem should arise. - Preventive monitoring work by the State Security Forces and Bodies and Labour and Social Security Inspections will be encouraged. - The companies themselves have developed an ETHICAL, LABOUR AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PLAN and the State Secretary for Migration will require a commitment to transparency from the companies. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
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*Please tick the appropriate box

1.2.1.4 Low and medium skilled workers (other than seasonal workers)

Were there any new developments in relation to low and medium skilled workers, other than seasonal workers, in 2018? YES.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
The analysis of the labour market, and specifically, certain specific sectors, has demonstrated the existence of a certain upturn of needs which are not covered.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

<p>This analysis of the national situation of short-term employment must necessarily be connected with, at least, the following two elements whose impacts are reflected in the medium and long-term. Firstly, immigration has a clear demographic contribution. The loss of population which Spain is experiencing is not an isolated phenomenon, instead being common to other European countries. Secondly, in the coming years, a significant number of current contributors will access retirement.</p> <p>Considering this, it has been deemed appropriate to enable a channel through the aforementioned GECCO Order, in the case of it being forecast in the framework of a legal migration project or required to cover certain needs of the market, which will allow stable hiring for 2019.</p>	
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**Please tick the appropriate box*

1.2.1.5 Entrepreneurs and investors

Were there any new developments in relation to entrepreneurs and investors in 2018? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>By virtue of Law 14/2013 on support for entrepreneurs and their internationalisation, there is a national visa (for prospective activities, lasting one year) and a residence authorisation (lasting two years) for innovative entrepreneurs. Although in 2018 there have been no regulatory changes, work to promote this activity has continued, Spain granting increasing value to it.</p> <p>Applicants must be over 18 years old, must not appear as rejectable in the Schengen space, must not have a criminal record and be in a regular situation in Spain, and must have sufficient capacity for covering the economic and healthcare needs of the applicant and their family. Additionally, there is a continuous series of controls which may lead, in the most serious cases, to the termination of the visa or residence authorisation. This control is carried out by the Unit for Large Companies and Strategic Collectives (UGE) of the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security.</p> <p>Thus, the third call of the Rising Startup Spain Programme has taken place, for attracting international entrepreneurs, which had 400 applications in 2018 compared with 155 applications in the first edition in 2016.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other</p>

**Please tick the appropriate box*

1.2.1.6 Trainees, au-pairs and volunteers

Were there any new developments in relation to trainees, au-pairs and volunteers in 2018? YES.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>With regard to Trainees, with the transposition of Directive (EU) 2016/801 a residence authorisation has been created to participate in an internship programme for foreign persons who have obtained a higher education degree in the two years prior to the application date or who are undertaking studies which lead to obtaining it.</p> <p>With regard to the field of internships, these are required to be carried out in the same academic field and at the same level of qualification as the higher education degree or higher education study programme being studied.</p> <p>The duration of the residence authorisation for internships depends on the instrument through which the foreign person is linked with the receiving entity. If it is a hosting agreement, the residence authorisation duration will be six months or the same as the duration of the agreement, this being less. It is possible to renew this residence authorisation a single time, the total period not being able to exceed one year (the initial period plus its extension). If it is an internship work contract, the duration of the authorisation will be that set out in the contract in accordance with labour legislation applicable at the time. Currently, the duration of this contract cannot be under six months or exceed two years.</p> <p>Family regrouping is not established for this collective. However, insofar as this authorisation may be applied for for a person who is already in a regular situation in Spain, the situation of relatives will be evaluated on an individual basis when the person doing the internship had prior authorisation in Spain and has been accompanied by their relatives.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the homogenous application of this new authorisation, in December 2018, an instruction was published by the Directorate General for Migration.</p> <p>With regard to Volunteers, work is continuing with the European Voluntary Service, which allows all young people legally residing in Europe between 17 and 30 years of age to undertake international volunteer work at an organisation or public body in Europe, Africa, Asia or South America for a period of 2 to 12 months. Travel expenses and accommodation costs will be refunded. For volunteers participating in this Service, and as a result of the transposition of the directive, they are exempt, in the admission requirements, from taking out civil liability insurance (article 38 e) 2º of Royal Decree 557/2011, approving the Regulation of Organic Law 4/2000 on rights and freedoms of foreign persons in Spain and their social integration.</p> <p>There are no new elements in terms of the regulation on Au Pairs. Spain has not transposed the provisions of Directive 2016/801 regarding this form.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

1.2.1.7 Other remunerated workers

Were there any new developments in relation to other remunerated workers in 2018? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>The aforementioned GECCO Order sets out the granting of visas for seeking employment aimed at children and grandchildren of Spanish people for 2019. The Order establishes the number of 1,500 visas.</p> <p>Based on this, the Directorate General for Migration is working on a pilot project for visas for children and grandchildren of Spanish people residing in the Republic of Argentina (given that its nature as a pilot project, it is based on a maximum figure of (500). These visas will allow entry to Spain to seek employment during a three month period, and if employment is found, authorisation to work will be obtained quickly without the national employment situation being applied.</p> <p>A work group has been established to coordinate the project, and instructions are being worked on to establish the procedure for the selection of candidates. This selection will take into account, among other elements, their profile, and work is being carried out with the Public State Employment Service and the business community in order to</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

guarantee alignment of skills and abilities of candidates and the needs of the Spanish labour market.	
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1.2.2 SATISFYING LABOUR MARKET NEEDS - ADMISSION POLICIES

Were there any new developments to satisfy labour market and skill needs/shortages in relation to the employment of third-country nationals (which were not already covered in question 1.2.1 above) in 2018? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>In Spain, admission policies are necessarily linked with the situation of the labour market. In this context, one of the priorities of national labour and migration policies is that of employing residents in the country, the national employment situation being one of the elements which allow the prioritisation of contraction people who are already residents instead of those who are not in Spain. In this sense, the catalogue of occupations which are difficult to cover (the main instrument aligning admissions with the national employment situation) was in 2018 only been open to occupations in the merchant navy and sports activities.</p> <p>Nevertheless, this national employment situation does not apply, among other cases, to residence authorisations of Law 14/2013 addressing the need for professionals with international experience.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

1.2.3 'SOCIAL DUMPING'⁴ AND LABOUR EXPLOITATION

Were there any new developments aimed at tackling labour exploitation and/or social dumping of third-country national workers legally residing in your (Member) State in 2018? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below, stating the drivers for the change / intended impact if applicable.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>In April 2018, the Council of Ministers approved the Strategic Plan for Inspection of Labour and Social Security for the 2018-2020 period, among the priorities of which the insertion and integration of immigrants linked with employment must be highlighted, in the framework of a common European migration and asylum policy.</p> <p>Another of the new elements in 2018 was the approval of the 2018-2020 Management Plan for Decent Work, which emphasises the insertion and integration of immigrants in the labour market being carried out under strict conditions of equality with regard to national workers. To do so, the Labour Inspectorate has been carrying out a campaign which monitors that the working conditions of immigrants are not discriminatory.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

4. ⁴ While there is no definition of the concept of "social dumping" in EU law, the term is generally used to point to unfair competition due to the application of different wages and social protection rules to different categories of worker (Parliamentary questions, 27 May 2015, E-008441-15). The European Commission described the practice as a situation 'where foreign service providers can undercut local service providers because their labour standards are lower', more info at [Eurofound](#)

1.2.4 CIRCULAR MIGRATION

Were there any **new** developments regarding circular migration in 2018? **YES**

If **yes**, please elaborate below, stating the drivers for the change / intended impact if applicable.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>As mentioned in heading 1.2.1.3, hiring in origin of seasonal workers for agricultural seasons, particularly with Morocco, has been consolidated as a good practice of circular migration, which takes into consideration the needs of the labour market of both the origin country and the destination country, facilitating the positive impact of a well managed migration policy (for the migrant, communities and countries, both origin and destination) referred to by the 2030 Agenda, the Global Compact for Migration and, at a European Level, the European Agenda on Migration. For this purpose, the GECCO Order mentioned in point 1.2.1.3 has been approved, which also pays special attention to the guarantees of labour rights of workers. It has also sought to improve aspects regarding control of returns. This year, 19,000 temporary workers are forecast to move from Morocco, who will then return to their country. With regard to the procedure and development of the season, significant improvements have been introduced for this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation of the harvest and cooperation with the Moroccan labour authorities have strengthened, making it possible for selection in origin to be carried out correctly. - Moroccan authorities have announced the development of cultural activities for workers and Spanish classes to improve their experience. - Meetings with social agents of the province of Huelva and with non-Governmental organisations have been multiplied. - It will be encouraged for there to be mediators who carry out social work and act as a permanent contact for workers. They will help them with their needs and be available if any query or problem should arise. - Preventive monitoring work by the State Security Forces and Bodies and Labour and Social Security Inspections will be encouraged. - The companies themselves have developed an ETHICAL, LABOUR AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PLAN and the State Secretary for Migration will require a commitment to transparency from the companies 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

Were there any **new** developments regarding other bilateral labour agreements between your (Member) State and third countries in 2018? **NO**

If **yes**, please elaborate below, stating the drivers for the change / intended impact if applicable.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>Bilateral agreements on regulation and organisation of labour migration flows are a key part of the Spanish migration model. To date, Spain has signed 6 bilateral agreements of this type with Colombia, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, Morocco, Mauritania and Ukraine. In 2018 no new agreements have been signed.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
<p>Additionally, although not labour migration agreements, bilateral agreements for the mobility of young professionals intend to favour the exchange of young people in order to enrich their life experiences and also acquire work experience. There are agreements with Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Japan, South Korea and Argentina. The agreement with Argentina is signed and is being processed for entry into effect.</p> <p>In 2018 a Declaration of Intent was signed with Chile, which will serve as a basis for an agreement on this matter.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

There has been a significant growth in the number of visas linked with these Agreements, especially with Australia.	
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**Please tick the appropriate box*

1.2.5 OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN ECONOMIC MIGRATION

Were there any other new developments in the area of economic migration in 2018? Y/N.

If **yes**, please elaborate below, stating the drivers for the change / intended impact if applicable.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
.....	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

1.3 STUDENTS AND RESEARCHERS

Were there any new developments in relation to a) Students and b) Researchers in 2018? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please state the driver for the change / intended impact (e.g. incentive mechanisms to attract / retain students, measures to prevent mis-use etc.) if applicable.

Development for a) STUDENTS (please describe)	Nature*
<p>In summer 2018, certain aspects were altered in the international mobility section of Law 14/2013 of the 27th of September on support for entrepreneurs and their internationalisation, as well as the Regulation on foreign persons in order to fully incorporate Directive 2016/801 into Spanish legislation. This reform has allowed advances in the attraction and retention of foreign talent, which constitutes a priority for Spain, through the improvement and simplification of processes related with admission and residence, as well as strengthening of rights.</p> <p>Thus, significant new elements have been introduced in the system for admission of international students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - requesting authorisations for stays for studies from Spain, when previously this was only possible from abroad - allowing application for visas through representation (and not only in person, which saves the student from travelling, particularly when they live far from the consular office) - enabling a channel so that it is the higher education institutions which request the authorisation for their international students. <p>Additionally, through the transposition, the EU intramobility procedure has been regulated through a communication and a residence authorisation has been created aimed at students so that, upon completion of their studies, they can remain in Spain to seek employment or launch a business project, thereby improving the capacity for retaining foreign talent.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

<p>Additionally, Spain continues to place the highest importance on international mobility programmes. During the last year, no new programmes have been initiated, but the management and spread of the existing programmes has continued.</p> <p>The cornerstone mobility programme is Erasmus+.</p> <p>In the 2018 call, a total of 90 mobility projects were awarded to many other Spanish higher education institutions, for a total sum of €18,934,455 which will allow the participation of 5,327 Spanish students and personnel and from 108 countries of the rest of the world.</p> <p>Furthermore, it must be highlighted that the European Commission again set a challenge for the National Agencies of the countries of the programme, through the inclusion of an additional allocation for the region of West Africa for the sum of 4 million euros from the Emergency Fiduciary Fund. The objective of this additional allocation is to finance mobility projects with the 12 countries that make up the West Africa region (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal), in order to increase the mobility of its higher education students and enhance the capacity of its higher education teachers and institutions in the management of international mobility.</p> <p>Spain has joined this initiative with a contribution of 970,000 euros, added to the financing currently available for Sub-Saharan Africa through the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI).</p> <p>Exchange programmes have also continued to be developed through collaboration agreements with foreign governments for the incorporation of students and teaching and non-teaching personnel.</p>	
Development for b) RESEARCHERS (please describe)	Nature*
<p>In terms of researchers, the main new elements introduced with the transposition of the Directive were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The creation of a new residence authorisation for EU researchers, who will have access to mobility within the EU. - Allowing the application to be made from Spain or abroad. - Simplification of the migration procedures for foreign researchers who already have the authorisation in another Member State and who wish to carry out part of their research activity in Spain. A communication demonstrating validity of residence issued by the first Member State is sufficient. - Facilitation is maintained for family regrouping of the researcher. The right to work of their spouse or partner is therefore recognised. - Finally, as mentioned in the section on students, it is guaranteed that upon completion of the research activity, the researcher may remain in Spain for a period of 12 months to seek employment or to undertake a business project, thereby promoting the retention of talent. 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

1.4 FAMILY REUNIFICATION AND FAMILY FORMATION

Were there any **new** developments regarding family reunification and family formation in 2018? **NO**

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please state the driver for the change / intended impact (e.g. facilitation of family reunification, measures to prevent mis-use etc.)

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>Although there are now new elements in this area, work is being carried out on a set of instructions aimed at the foreign persons' offices which will indicate the terms in which the family regrouping will be carried out.</p> <p>These instructions will try to address elements which have been highlighted by the Ombudsman, as well as by different judicial decisions.</p> <p>Among the aspects which will be addressed are family ties related with the authorisation of parents of Spanish minors from outside the EU or citizens of the Union residing in</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

Spain, the facilitation of family regrouping, reducing the resources required until the time when trying to regroup children, which has frequently been an insurmountable barrier to regrouping, as well as the concept of dependents.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

1.5 INFORMATION ON ROUTES TO AND CONDITIONS OF LEGAL MIGRATION

Were there any new developments in 2018 to improve the provision of information on the routes to and conditions of legal migration for third-country nationals? YES

For example, provision of information through:

- a) Information campaigns, websites, specific centres etc.
- b) Cooperation with third countries, for example on pre-departure measures, which may include provision of information on visas and residence / work permits, which take place both in the (Member) State and/or a third country.

If **yes**, please elaborate below.

Development (please describe)	Nature*
<p>a) Information campaigns, websites</p> <p>It is necessary to emphasise that Spain firmly supports legal, secure and orderly migration, which constitutes a key element for the management of migration.</p> <p>The use of suitable information channels is therefore considered one of the essential instruments for the prevention of irregular migration and the promotion of regular migration channels.</p> <p>For this purpose, the corresponding section of the website of the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security is frequently updated with information on this matter.</p> <p>Furthermore, work is being carried out on a specific audiovisual campaign for 2019, with the objective of reaching the largest audience in the most effective way possible.</p> <p>Finally, the functions of the Departments of the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security abroad include providing information on this. Thus, in December, the Department in Senegal participated in the Dakar Migration Forum, organised by the ANPEJ (National Agency of Youth Employment, a type of proto-public employment service) and partially financed by an EU programme on migration and professional mobility. The Forum had several parts: 1) panels: one on regular migration (the State of Senegal committing to publicly combatting irregular emigration) and another on voluntary return, films and testimonials; 2) stands of countries and organisations; 3) stands of returned emigrants outside the complex displaying their business initiatives, products, etc.; and 4) a scientific conference in the Women's Museum on emigration.</p> <p>At this Forum, the Department distributed informative leaflets providing information on regular migration requirements and the dangers of irregular migration.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
<p>b) Cooperation with third countries</p> <p>As mentioned in heading 1.2.4, one of the aspects which has been improved in the circular migration programme with Morocco has been the information provided on the characteristics of the programme, and particularly on the rights of workers.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

1.6 OTHER MEASURES REGARDING LEGAL MIGRATION

Were there any other new developments regarding legal migration? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below, and state the driver for the change / intended impact in 2018

Development (please describe)	Nature*
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<p>Additionally, Spain, jointly with Morocco, has identified a legal migration action for study purposes which has been presented to the Commission as a pilot project proposal, thereby realising one of the actions of the Valletta Action Plan. The “YOUNG PEOPLE AS AGENTS OF CHANGE” project, whose objective is to implement a short-term mobility plan for study purposes, will allow Moroccan participants to improve and strengthen their skills and knowledge through studying a Master’s Degree in Spain in key socioeconomic sectors for Morocco.</p> <p>Participants must also design a project related with the studies carried out, which will be implemented in Morocco upon completion of the Master’s Degree. It is planned for the ten best projects to receive up to 10,000 euros for implementation.</p> <p>The number of participants will be around 100 Moroccan postgraduate students and will last 21 months (March 2019 – December 2020).</p> <p>The project is organised in three different phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First phase: Prior to mobility: The Moroccan authorities will identify their key social and economic sectors (potential sectors: water management, agriculture, engineering, climate change, environment) with the participation of the private sector, to ensure the alignment of political priorities with the demand for qualified workers of the Moroccan labour market. Spanish universities (in collaboration with Moroccan universities) will select Moroccan postgraduates. Spanish languages courses may be provided to participants, if necessary. • Second phase: Mobility to Spain: The selected Moroccan students will move to a Spanish university to undertake their studies. During this phase, the beneficiaries will study the selected Master’s Degree and undertake a research project in one of the key sectors indicated in the first phase. A grant will be created for the best research projects. An independent committee will select the ten best projects, which will be implemented in Morocco upon their return. Credit institutions and other donors will also be contacted to increase the number of projects whose financing will be ensured as far as possible. • Third phase: Reintegration: The participants return to Morocco and implement the winning projects. Support activities have also been planned for integration into the local labour market for all participants, through contacts and agreements with public entities and private companies which operate in the key sectors. <p>The project was presented to the Commission on the 18th of February. It is pending approval.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
<p>As mentioned in heading 1.5, at the Annual Conference of the REM held in 2018, it was debated how countries could identify and implement well managed migration policies which maximise their positive impact on migrants and on countries of origin, transit and destination.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

2 INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION INCLUDING ASYLUM

NB: THIS SECTION WILL ALSO FEED INTO EASO'S ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SITUATION OF ASYLUM IN THE EU.

2.1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM (CEAS) AND RELATED POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

2.1.1. CHANGES IN LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Please provide **information on new developments** relating to any of the following areas:

2.1.1.1 Access to the asylum procedure

Were there any new developments in relation to access to the asylum procedure in 2018? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development <i>(Please describe)</i>	Nature*
a) First arrival to territory (including information provided at the time of first arrival to the EU territory and operations to help asylum seekers on arrival);	
A Protocol has been created on disembarking after Life-Saving operations, coordinating the action of the different Ministries involved.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Access to the asylum procedure (including applications made at the border, within the (Member) State's territory and in detention) - including making and lodging applications;	
Work has been carried out on the decentralisation and access to the procedure in the foreign persons' offices and police stations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Registration of applications for international protection (including subsequent applications and Dublin returnees), identification and fingerprinting.	
Yes, as a result of the decentralised access to the procedure mentioned previously in section b)	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

2.1.1.2 Reception of asylum applicants

Were there any new developments in relation to reception of asylum applicants in 2018? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development <i>(Please describe)</i>	Nature*
a) Reception of applicants (please include information on reception capacities – rise/fall/stable, material reception conditions, i.e. housing, food and clothing and financial support, contingency planning in reception, access to labour market and vocational training, medical care, schooling and education, residence and freedom of movement)	
Given the continuous increase of applicants for international protection during 2018, the capacity for reception places available has continued to increase within the National System for Reception and Integration of asylum seekers, reaching 8,500 places this year for the temporary reception phase.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Detention during the asylum procedure (detention capacity – rise/fall/stable, practices regarding detention, grounds for detention, alternatives to detention, time limit for detention)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

2.1.1.3 Asylum procedures

Were there any new developments in relation to asylum procedures in 2018? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
a) Access to information and legal counselling/representation (including at the border and during the asylum procedure);	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Provision of interpretation;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Dublin procedure (including changes in: the organisational framework, IT systems ⁵ , practical development and suspension of transfers to selected countries, detention in the framework of Dublin procedures);	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
d) Special procedures: border procedures, procedures in transit zones, accelerated procedures, admissibility procedures, prioritised procedures or any special procedure for selected caseloads;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
e) Safe country concept: safe country of origin, safe third country, European safe third country, first country of asylum (introduction of the concept into law, applicability of the concept in practice, measures undertaken to create, revise or implement a list of safe countries);	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
f) Procedures at first instance (relevant changes in: the authority in charge, organisation of the process, interviews, evidence assessment, international protection status determination, decision making, timeframes, case management, including backlog management);	
<p>As indicated in previous sections, the decentralisation of access to the procedure is currently being applied at the level of Police Stations, thereby allowing the OAR to focus on more substantial aspects. Additionally, the practice of retaining the passport of asylum seekers is no longer applicable once the person has presented the documentation before the OAR or the police.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
g) Appeal/judicial review (changes in: organisation of the process, hearings, written procedures, timeframes, case management, including backlog management);	

5. ⁵ For example, information on setting up new databases that allow managing of Dublin cases, problems with managing DubliNet which can cause a delay in sending/receiving Dublin requests, acquisition of new equipment, such as Eurodac machines etc. as it is a relevant development in boosting the capacity to conduct Dublin procedures.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
Coordination between the Spanish Asylum Office and the State's Legal Counsel has been improved in cases which involve appeals against administrative decisions on asylum.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
h) Country of origin information (changes or updates in: organisation, methodology, products, databases, fact-finding missions, cooperation between (Member) States).	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

2.1.1.4 Residence/entry documents and rights/obligations of beneficiaries of international protection

Were there any **new** developments in relation to the rights and obligations related to the status of beneficiary of international protection in 2018? **NO**, the rights and obligations continue to be the same.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
a) Residence/entry documents granted to beneficiaries of international protection (including length/duration);	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Rights and obligations regarding family reunification, access to social welfare scheme, access to accommodation, healthcare, citizenship, education, employment etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

2.1.1.5 Provision of information on residence/entry documents and rights/obligations of beneficiaries of international protection

Were there any **new** developments in relation to the provision of information to beneficiaries of international protection on the rights and obligations related to that status, in a language that they understand or are reasonably supposed to understand in 2018? **Y/N. NO**, the information provided on their rights and obligations continues to be similar to in previous years.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
a) Information on residence/entry documents granted to beneficiaries of international protection (including length/duration);	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Information on rights and obligations regarding family reunification, access to social welfare scheme, access to accommodation, healthcare, citizenship, employment and integration programme.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

2.1.1.6 Withdrawal of international protection

Were there any new developments regarding the withdrawal of international protection? Y/N. NO changes have been introduced with regard to the cases which enable the withdrawal of the condition of beneficiary of international protection.

Please include information in relation to institutional and organisational aspects, procedural rules, cessation, grounds for revocation of, ending of, or refusal to renew international protection (grounds for ending international protection include: exclusion, misrepresentation or omission of facts and danger to national security or the community) and consequences following revocation of, ending of, or refusal to renew international protection.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

2.1.1.7 Cooperation with third countries

Were there any new policies/measures in 2018 implemented in cooperation with third countries, including activities related to the external dimension of the CEAS (e.g. participation in capacity building activities in third countries, Regional Development Protection Programmes or any relevant activities under Partnership Framework with Third Countries and European Neighbourhood Policy)? **NO**

If evidence is available, please describe the outcomes of these developments in the box below

2.1.1.8 Other developments in asylum legislation, policy and practices

Were there any other new developments in 2018 which were not covered above, in particular in relation to any specific challenges? NO

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
The development of the new database is underway and expected to be operational for 2020	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
The digitisation of the existing paper files is expected to be completed in the near future.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

2.1.2 INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL ASYLUM SYSTEM

Were there any new institutional changes in the asylum field at ministry/agency/section level (including changes in mandate, creation of new entities, internal restructuring and transfer of competences, increase/decrease of staffing) in 2018? Y/N. YES

A new Directorate General for Integration and Humanitarian Assistance has been created within the State Secretary for Migration, whose priority is adequately attending to both beneficiaries and applicants of international protection. The increase in asylum applications, as well as arrivals of applicants from relocation and resettlement mechanisms has entailed a restructuring of the Spanish asylum system, both for managing the larger number of applications and for the reception capacity.

Additionally, a shock plan has been approved to provide more human and technical resources to the Asylum Office of the Ministry of the Interior (OAR) and to enhance the humanitarian assistance resources of the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security.

Up to 300 people make up the updated list of the OAR personnel.

2.1.3 EFFICIENCY AND QUALITY OF THE NATIONAL ASYLUM SYSTEM

Were there any measures undertaken to improve:

Development <i>(Please describe)</i>	Nature*
a) Safeguards of the national asylum system (preventing and combatting unfounded applications, credibility assessment, ⁶ establishing identity, nationality verification, detection of security concerns, age fraud) including information on tools, mechanisms and training provided to staff;	
At the end of 2018, there was a significant increase in personnel, who received one week of training on general aspects of the international protection system. In addition to this, four people who form part of the medium-high management level of the OAR assumed the role in the last quarter of 2018.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Quality of the national asylum system (internal measures to improve quality in decision-making processes and the content of issued decisions, e.g. creation of guidelines and instructions). Please include information on training, tools and mechanisms and state how results are measured.	
Training on equality is provided to all newly incorporated personnel.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
Continuous dialogue has been established with the relevant interested parties in the context of the OAR and the reorganisation of the international protection system.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Efficiency of the processing of (first) applications and appeals (increasing speed, reducing costs, use of new technology, specialised training provided) of the national asylum system. Please indicate if there are any procedural changes, which are specific to subsequent applications.	
The database has been updated to improve the applicant profile details (completion expected in 2019)	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
Internal guidelines on substantive issues have been distributed to new personnel.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

Please include information on **effectiveness** of above listed measures (where evidence exists and stating how this is measured).

6. ⁶ According to EASO, credibility assessment is performed in order to establish if the applicant's statements substantiating the claim are truthful in the light of other circumstances of the case and other means of evidence.

2.2 RELOCATION AND RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMMES

NB: Please note that information collected under this section, will be presented in the Synthesis Report together with the EU overview of relocation and resettlement schemes.

Relocation⁷

2.2.1.1 Intra-EU relocation mechanism

Were there any changes in your national practices with regard to applicants relocated under the intra-EU relocation mechanism in 2018? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please also mention any challenges related to this mechanism.

Yes.

Spain has participated in relocation mechanisms as a result of Decisions 2015/1523 and 2015/1601. Additionally, the Ruling of the Administrative Chamber of the Supreme Court of July 2018 must be noted.

This ruling sentenced the Spanish State for partial non-fulfilment of its obligations of relocation from Greece and Italy. In its ruling, it decided as a consequence of this non-compliance that Spanish State must continue with the processing in the terms set out in Decisions 2015/1523 and 2015/1601 of the Council and in accordance with the agreements subsequently adopted by community authorities.

The Government showed its willingness to continue with the relocations committed to.

According to the latest data (October 2018) Spain has relocated 1,454 people.

2.2.1.2 National relocation mechanisms

Were there any actions undertaken in 2018 with regard to relocation activities organised under national schemes (i.e. on bilateral basis, not EU level schemes)? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below.

Several disembarkation operations took place in Spanish ports after SAR operations which comprised 776 people. France participated in the relocation of 103 of these, in a voluntary and intergovernmental manner.

7.⁷ Relocation: The transfer of persons having a status defined by the Geneva Refugee Convention and Protocol or subsidiary protection within the meaning of Directive 2011/95/EU (Recast Qualification Directive) from the EU Member State which granted them international protection to another EU Member State where they will be granted similar protection, and of persons having applied for international protection from the EU Member State which is responsible for examining their application to another EU Member State where their applications for international protection will be examined. In the context of the EU emergency relocation programme, the transfer of persons in clear need of international protection, as defined in Council Decision 2015/1601 and 2016/1754, having applied for international protection from the EU Member State, CH or NO which is responsible for examining their application to another EU Member State, CH or NO where their application for international protection will be examined. (see EMN Glossary V6).

2.2.2 RESETTLEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ADMISSION PROGRAMMES⁸

2.2.2.1 EU Joint Resettlement Programmes

Were there any activities related to resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes implemented by your (Member) State under EU resettlement programmes in 2018? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please also mention any challenges related to these programmes.

Yes, under the 50,000 scheme in the context of the 2017 national resettlement program from Jordan and Turkey, with a target of 1,000 persons. Around 800 have received protection already, and the process of transfer is ongoing.

2.2.2.2 National Resettlement Programmes

Please note that this question focuses on national resettlement programmes, such as those implemented by UNHCR, whilst the question on above 2.2.2.1 focuses on EU joint resettlement programmes

Please describe 2018 resettlement activities to your (Member) State, differentiating between the types of programme indicated below.

If applicable, for each of the programmes described, please indicate the resettlement quota established, the actual number of people resettled/admitted and from which countries. Please describe any evidence of the results / outcomes of this cooperation, if available.

a) National resettlement programme (UNHCR);

The annual Agreements of the Council of Ministers constitute the key piece of the Spanish resettlement system. These agreements detail the characteristics of the programme and the quota of recipients.

Spain has proposed the resettlement of 2,250 people in the 2018-2019 period, within the initiative of the European Commission for resettling 50,000 people in 2 years. To date, 64 people have been resettled.

These resettlements have been carried out in the framework of National Resettlement Programmes. The latest committed to resettling 1,000 people in 2018. During 2019, this figure is forecast to be 1,200 people. The current Programme takes into account the priorities defined by ACNUR.

For the implementation of the Programme, undertaking selection and identification missions in the field is planned. On the 25th of October 2018, seven missions have been carried out.

The PNR 2018 authorised, for execution in 2019, the reception in Spain of up to 1,200 refugees. The implementation of the resettlement programme has been carried out by the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security and Ministry of the Interior.

The execution of the Resettlement Programme has involved the following actions:

- Determination of the profiles and selection criteria for people who will be resettled: based on the priorities and protection needs identified by ACNUR with regard to resettlement.

→ Definition of these profiles: also taking into account the priorities identified at a European level and the corresponding community financing.

→ Selection of refugees to be represented in accordance with previously established eligibility criteria: to do so, the files of refugees presented by ACNUR have been examined, adapted to the previously established qualification criteria and profiles. Selection and identification missions have been carried

8. ⁸ Resettlement: In the EU context, the transfer, on a request from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and based on their need for international protection, of a third-country national or stateless person, from a third country to an EU Member State, where they are permitted to reside with one of the following statuses:

9. (i) refugee status within the meaning of Art. 2(d) of Directive 2011/95/EU (Recast Qualification Directive); (ii) a status which offers the same rights and benefits under national and EU law as refugee status. (see EMN Glossary Version 6).

out in the field to complete the information collected by ACNUR and facilitate subsequent training on files and the identification of refugees.

→ Determination of the protection status which will be granted to the refugees who will be resettled, in accordance with the provisions of the first additional provision of Law 12/2009 of the 30th of October: the identification and selection of the people who will be resettled has been completed. Following the corresponding verification of their matching the criteria and objectives of the programme, the corresponding administrative files were opened and processed to grant international protection.

→ Preparation and actions before the transfer of refugees to Spain: information has been provided to the resettled people about Spain and about the conditions of the resettlement programme, medical examinations have been carried out and travel documents have been issued.

→ Transfer to Spain, by their own means or with the collaboration of other organisations, such as the International Organisation for Migration.

→ Reception in Spain and territorial distribution, based on the criteria established by the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security.

→ Development of integration itineraries for refugees by the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security.

Up to October, 78 resettlements had been carried out: 15 from Turkey and 63 from Lebanon.

b) National Humanitarian Admission Programme;

Numerous negative asylum applications were appealed by citizens of this nationality and overturned in humanitarian admission, which led to a renewable one year residence permit at a judicial level (National Audience). However, jurisprudence lacks homogeneity in this approach and it has been framed in the context of Venezuelan citizens. For example, in the ruling of the 26th of June 2018 must be taken into account (the references to judicial cases include recommendations 628/2017, 328/2017, 456/2017, 457/2017, 417/2017).

c) Private sponsorship programme/scheme;

In the frame work of the commitments adopted due to the Global Compact on Refugees, Spain is developing refugee sponsorship programmes which encourage participation in civil society. In this context, in July 2018 the State Secretary for Migration signed a joint declaration with the competent ministries of Canada, the United Kingdom, Argentina and New Zealand supporting refugee sponsorship programmes and the work being carried out in this regard by the Canadian Global Community Sponsorship Initiative.

Thus, in collaboration with ACNUR and the Basque Government, a pilot project has been implemented for Community Sponsorship for the Reception and Integration of Refugees. The Community Sponsorship Programmes will complement the state system for reception and strengthen the role of civil society and local communities. Community Sponsorship is a model for reception and integration of refugees in which the initiative and responsibility is assumed jointly by Public Administrations and private actors (individuals, businesses, non-profit entities, etc.), offering citizens the opportunity to directly participate in the assistance work in their integration process.

d) Ad-hoc special programmes (e.g. national initiatives, and/or international initiatives)

2.3 [INFORMATION FOR EASO PURPOSES \(REPORT AND EASO DATABASE ON CASE LAW\) ONLY, NOT FOR INCLUSION IN EMN SYNTHESIS REPORT:](#)

Jurisprudence

Please provide information on precedent setting new national jurisprudence relating to asylum with major policy implications (preferably final judgments) by using the following structure:

- **Court Name**
- **Date of Decision**
- **Title/Parties**
- **Case Number/ Citation/Document Symbol/ECLI**
- **Abstract**

➤ **Link to the full version/or attach original document**

*Please provide information on the impact of **CJEU/ECHR judgements** on national policy*

Tribunal: Administrative Chamber of the Supreme Court

Date:

9th of July 2018

Ruling 1168/2018. ECLI: ES:TS:2018:2546

Sentencing the Spanish State for partial non-fulfilment of its obligations of relocation from Greece and Italy. In its ruling, it decided as a consequence of this non-compliance that Spanish State must continue with the processing in the terms set out in the Decisions and in accordance with the agreements subsequently adopted by community authorities.

The Government showed its willingness to continue with the relocations committed to.

Link to full version: <http://www.poderjudicial.es/search/openDocument/b06a3b9ac1ef852f>

3 UNACCOMPANIED MINORS AND OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS

The Framework Protocol for Foreign Unaccompanied Minors has continued to be applied, trying to improve the coordination of institutions and administrations affected in order to provide the necessary assistance and protection to these minors.

3.1 UNACCOMPANIED MINORS APPLYING FOR ASYLUM

Were there any **new developments at national level in 2018 in relation to unaccompanied minors (UAMs) who were applying for asylum using the specific headings outlined below? Y/N. YES** (but the response is not aimed at Unaccompanied Minors who are asylum seekers, instead toward all, regardless of their administrative situation)

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
a) Increase/Decrease of human resources and/or training of staff;	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Improvement of protection and care of UAMs, including reception facilities;	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Legal guardianship and foster care;	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
d) Age assessment;	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
e) Procedural safeguards;	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
f) Provision of information (info material, e.g. videos, leaflets, booklets etc.);	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
g) Other.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
<p>The constant increase of arrivals of Unaccompanied Minors in the Spanish territory, particularly during 2018, has had a significant impact on the means and resources of public entities available for the protection of minors in Autonomous Communities and the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta and Melilla. In order to attend to the needs of these minors, the General State Administration directly granted subsidies for Autonomous Communities and the cities of Ceuta and Melilla amounting to a total of 40 million euros (Royal Decree 1340/2018). This has been a significant budget increase for these territorial administrations, which in previous years had to be reduced for the cities of Ceuta and Melilla, and with which the necessary assistance in the rest of the Autonomous Communities is strengthened.</p>	

*Please tick the appropriate box

3.2 OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS APPLYING FOR ASYLUM

Were there any new developments at national level in relation to other vulnerable groups⁹ applying for asylum in 2018? Y/N. No relevant changes have been made.

Other vulnerable groups include minors, disabled people, elderly people, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, and intersex (LGBTQI) people, pregnant women, single parents with minor children, persons with serious illnesses, persons with mental disorders and persons who have been subjected to torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence, such as victims of female genital mutilation, following the specific headings outlined below.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
a) Measures clarifying the definition of vulnerable groups;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Special reception facilities for vulnerable groups;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Identification mechanisms/referrals;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
d) Applicable procedural safeguards;	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
e) Other.	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

3.3 UNACCOMPANIED MINORS NOT APPLYING FOR ASYLUM

Were there any new developments at national level in 2018 in relation to unaccompanied minors (UAMs) NOT applying for asylum, following the specific headings outlined below? YES.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

In Spain, there have been no new elements in the field while there is a consolidated legal-administrative practice on the protection of foreign unaccompanied minors and the equal treatment of all minors regardless of their migration status. Their condition as minors is therefore prioritised over their migration status, thus **there are no differences between asylum seekers and those not applying for international protection.**

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
a) Increase/Decrease of human resources and/or training of staff;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Improvement of protection and care of UAMs, including reception facilities;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Legal guardianship and foster care;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

10. ⁹ Not including victims of human trafficking, as this is covered in Section 7.

Development <i>(Please describe)</i>	Nature*
d) Age assessment;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
e) Procedural safeguards;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
f) Provision of information (info material, e.g. videos, leaflets, booklets etc.);	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
g) Other.	
The Meeting of the MENA Subcommittee of the Permanent Spanish-Moroccan Group on Migration Issues was held.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

3.4 OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS NOT APPLYING FOR ASYLUM

Were there any **new developments at national level in 2018 in relation to other vulnerable groups NOT** applying for asylum (such as (accompanied) minors, disabled people, elderly people, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, and intersex (LGBTQI) people, pregnant women, single parents with minor children, persons with serious illnesses, persons with mental disorders and persons who have been subjected to torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence, such as victims of female genital mutilation) , following the specific headings outlined below? **Y/N. NO**

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development <i>(Please describe)</i>	Nature*
a) Measures clarifying the definition of vulnerable groups;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Special reception facilities for vulnerable groups;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Identification mechanisms/referrals;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
d) Applicable procedural safeguards;	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
e) Other.	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

4 INTEGRATION

Integration is one of the pillars of the Spanish migration policy. The importance of this element is embodied, for example, in the creation of a new Directorate General for Integration and Humanitarian Assistance.

Additionally, work is being carried out on two elements in order to strengthen the integration policy. Firstly, recovery of the fund for integration has been planned (whose contribution disappeared in recent years) in order to recover actions and programmes in cooperation with autonomous communities and city councils.

Secondly, work is being carried out on a new integration strategy.

4.1 INTEGRATION OF THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS

Integration through socio-economic participation

Were there any **new** developments to facilitate integration of third-country nationals, through socio-economic participation in 2018? YES

Please note that this question is intended to capture generic integration policies. Measures targeting specific categories of third-country nationals are addressed in Section 4.2.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
a) Measures to improve attainment in schooling and/or the education system and/or vocational training;	
Assistance for foreign students is encompassed in all autonomous communities. All education centres sustained with public funds in Spain must have a reception protocol.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Measures to enhance language skills;	
Work has continued on measures and programmes for encouraging and increasing knowledge of Spanish, as mentioned with regard to the selection of seasonal workers in heading 1.2.1.3.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Access to social security, social assistance, healthcare, housing and other basic services;	
<p>On the 31st of July 2018, Royal Decree law 7/2018 of the 27th of July came into effect, on universal access to the National Health System, which recovers <u>universal access to the national health system</u>, in the same conditions, for all people in Spain, whatever, in principle, their administrative situation.</p> <p>So as not to compromise the financial sustainability of the National Health system and avoid the inappropriate use of the right to healthcare, with regard to these groups, healthcare will be paid for with public funds of the competent administrations provided that the following requirements are fulfilled:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not having the obligation to certify coverage of the healthcare provided by another channel, by virtue of the right of the EU, bilateral agreements and other applicable regulations. 2. Not being able to export the right of healthcare coverage from their country of origin. 3. There not being a third party obligated to pay <p>Given that the competences on healthcare are decentralised in autonomous communities, it is these communities that must establish the procedure by which foreign persons may obtain the certifying document accrediting this right to healthcare.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

In the creation of the regulation, the reports and considerations of internal bodies have been taken into account, such as the Ombudsman, as well as external bodies, such as the European Commission, the Council of Europe and the World Health Organisation. In all cases, as the text of the regulation indicates, beyond attending to the ethical need of healthcare, the universality of healthcare not only leads to the improvement of individual health, but also to the collective health of the whole population.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
d) Integration into the labour market.	
<p>Although a specific analysis of employment policies aimed at immigrants cannot be carried out, employment is a basic element of any integration policy. Unemployment continues to more strongly affect the foreign population, which is also concentrated in the most basic production sectors. The majority of the measures for improving employability are in the 2018 Annual Employment Policy Plan, part of the 2017-2020 Spanish Activation Strategy for Employment.</p> <p>As an additional measure aimed at the collective of foreign persons, the application of the 2014-2020 Operational Programme for Social Inclusion and Social Economy has continued.</p> <p>Finally, the State Secretary for Migration finances subsidies to facilitate social and labour insertion of immigrants. In 2018, these subsidies amounted to 30.2 million euros.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
e) Other.	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

4.1.2 INTEGRATION THROUGH CIVIC PARTICIPATION

Were there any **new** developments to promote the integration of third-country nationals through civic participation in 2018? Y/N. YES

For instance, consider measures to increase the participation of third country nationals (both women and men) in the design and implementation of integration policies; outreach programmes, capacity-building within migrant organisations; and measures to enhance democratic participation, for example, training, civic courses on national history, political institutions and values, mentors etc.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
The Forum for Social Integration of Immigrants constitutes the consultation, information and advice body for the integration of immigrants. It is constituted in a tripartite and balanced way by representatives from Public Administrations, immigrants' associations and other organisations with an interest and implementation in the field of migration, including the most representative union and business organisations. This Forum meets periodically and issues reports, declarations, judgements and statements. During the second half of 2018, two plenary meetings were held.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

4.2 PROMOTING INTEGRATION OF SPECIFIC CATEGORIES OF THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS

Were there any **new** developments specifically targeted to facilitate integration of specific categories of third-country nationals, such as beneficiaries of international protection, family migrants, UAMs and other vulnerable groups etc. in 2018? **Y/N. NO**, the lines of action which coordinate the integration of these groups have been maintained, without notable new elements.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development <i>(Please describe)</i>	Nature*
a) Measures to improve attainment in schooling and/or the education system and/or vocational training;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Measures to enhance language skills;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Access to social security, social assistance, healthcare, housing and other basic services;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
d) Integration into the labour market;	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
e) Other.	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

4.3 NON-DISCRIMINATION

Were there any **new** relevant developments in 2018 that concern promotion, implementation and monitoring of non-discrimination policies, in particular on grounds of ethnicity, race and others, as well as the intersection of several grounds for discrimination that would be particularly relevant for third-country nationals? **Y/N. YES**

Specifically mention any measures beyond those introduced through the transposition and implementation of EU legislation.¹⁰

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>In September 2018, an institutional cooperation agreement was signed between the Government, the General Council of the Judiciary and the State Attorney General to combat racism, xenophobia, LGBTphobia and other forms of intolerance. In the agreement, from the executive, the ministries of Justice, the interior, Education and Professional Training, Presidency, Relationships with Courts and Equality, Culture and Sport, and Labour, Migration and Social Security participated (through the State Secretary for Migration).</p> <p>As observers of civil society, various platforms related with the purpose of this agreement participated in it: the Forum for the Social Integration of Immigrants, the Council of Victims of Hate Crimes and Discrimination, the State Federation of Lesbians, Gays, Transsexuals and Bisexuals, the Council for the Elimination of Racial or Ethnic Discrimination, the State Council of the Roma People and the Third Sector Platform.</p> <p>The main objective of the agreement is assistance and collaboration between all institutions in strategies, plans, activities against racism, xenophobia, LGBTphobia and all forms of intolerance carried out, with a central focus on the assistance and defence of victims of hate crimes, discrimination and intolerance. Specifically, this involves activities for improving knowledge and research, the systematic analysis of procedures and the number of reports made, investigation diligence of the Prosecutors processed, judicial procedures initiated, sentences, and reparations to victims. Additionally, the organisation and joint undertaking of training and awareness activities in this field.</p> <p>This agreement has received the support of Institutions of the European Union (European Commission, European Fundamental Rights Agency – FRA) considering institutional cooperation in Spain a model for the rest of member countries.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

4.4 [PROMOTING INTEGRATION AT LOCAL LEVEL AND COOPERATION, CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION OF LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS](#)

Were there any new relevant activities implemented by national, regional and/or local governments on the integration of third-country nationals involving the active participation of local authorities and/or civil society in 2018? YES.

They might include activities addressing integration challenges in disadvantaged urban areas; improving multi-level cooperation between different levels of governance (e.g. national, regional, local government) and stakeholders (e.g. civil society organisations, economic and social partners, education institutions, public employment services); granting voting rights in local elections.

If **yes**, please elaborate below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>The Sectorial Conference on Immigration has met for the first time since 2015. This is a body for meeting between all Autonomous Communities and the General State Administration to put a common focus on the issues created by immigration. The Sectorial Conference highlighted that there must be joint, coordinated action between city councils, provincial councils, autonomous communities, NGOs and the state.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

11. ¹⁰ European non-discrimination law, as constituted by the EU non-discrimination directives (Racial Equality and Employment Equality Directive), Article 21 of the EU Charter of Fundamental rights and Article 14 of and Protocol 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights, prohibits discrimination across a range of contexts and a range of grounds.

<p>Since the end of 2018 work has been carried out aimed at the approval of a new Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration (PECI); this New Strategic Plan continues the path of the two previous PECI (2007-2010 and 2011-2014). The Forum for the Social Integration of Immigrants which already existed has been reactivated after a less dynamic period (2015-2018); this consultation, information and advice body on the integration of immigrants, whose main actors are organisations and civil society, local and regional governments, economic and social agents and ministerial departments affected, held two plenary meetings in the second half of 2018, with the new political authorities arising from the new Government elected in June 2018.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
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*Please tick the appropriate box

4.5 **AWARENESS RAISING ON MIGRATION IN THE HOSTING (MEMBER) STATE**

Were there any new developments aimed at raising awareness / engaging the receiving community within the (Member) State in order to enhance its understanding of the phenomenon of migration and thereby promote integration and social cohesion (information campaigns, websites, etc.) in 2018? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>Work is being carried out on the Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration, with the objective of structuring the integration policy, guaranteeing social cohesion and curbing discourse against immigration. This plan is aimed at all citizens and is based on the basic principles of equality, citizenship, interculturality and social inclusion.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

4.6 **INTEGRATION MEASURES IN THE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND/OR INVOLVING DIASPORA COMMUNITIES**

4.6.1. PRE-DEPARTURE INTEGRATION MEASURES IN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

Were there any new pre-departure policies / measures taking place in the countries of origin of third-country nationals to prepare for their integration after arrival in 2018? For example, language training, vocational training, recognition of qualifications and skills. Y/N. NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

4.6.2. INTEGRATION MEASURES INVOLVING THE DIASPORA COMMUNITIES IN MEMBER STATES

Were there any new integration developments involving the diaspora communities in your Member State (as a host country) in 2018? For example, activities either organised by public authorities or by diaspora communities with the government's support, to promote cultural awareness and/or integration activities for particular diaspora communities. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*

<p>As mentioned in 4.1.2 the Forum for the Social Integration of Immigrants is the body which coordinates the participation of immigrants' associations. This Forum meets periodically, proposing, informing and channelling actions with these purposes.</p> <p>Each year, International Migrants Day is held, the Forum issuing a declaration on this day in 2018.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

5 CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

5.1 CITIZENSHIP

Acquisition of citizenship

Were there any new developments in relation to the acquisition of citizenship (prerequisites and conditions) for legally residing third-country nationals in your (Member) State during 2018? Y/N. NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

Grounds for revocation of citizenship

Were there any new developments regarding the grounds for revocation of citizenship during 2018? Y/N. NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

5.2 STATELESSNESS

5.2.1 STATELESSNESS DETERMINATION, STATUS AND RIGHTS GRANTED

Were there any new developments in relation to statelessness determination and status during 2018? Y/N YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
a) Ratification of international conventions on statelessness;	
Spain ratified the United Nations Convention through a Law of the Parliament during the first half of 2018.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) A dedicated statelessness determination procedure (SDP) or any other procedures or mechanisms by which statelessness can be identified and status determined;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

Development <i>(Please describe)</i>	Nature*
c) Good practices;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
d) Rights granted to recognised statelessness persons.	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

6 BORDERS, VISA AND SCHENGEN

6.1 ENHANCED BORDER MANAGEMENT AT THE EXTERNAL BORDERS

6.1.1 BORDER CONTROL MEASURES/MANAGEMENT

Were there any new developments in relation to border control measures/ management implemented during 2018? Y/N. YES

NB: This question only pertains to technical developments and measures taken at the external borders.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
In 2018, the Coordination Authority was created for actions to address irregular migration in the Strait of Gibraltar region, Alboran Sea and adjacent waters. Additionally, for coordinating all life-saving and rescue operations in the region, so that the actions of all ministries involved can be carried out in a highly coordinated way.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
Installation of ABC systems adapted to the new Entry Exit System have been installed in the main border crossings.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

6.1.2 ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CONTROLS AT EXTERNAL BORDERS

Were there any new developments to ensure more effective control of the external borders, such as reinforcing border control staff, providing training, increasing overall resources, introducing action plans or protocols, etc. in 2018? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
Renovation of SIVE infrastructure has been carried out along the Spanish coast, including two new stations in Almería.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
Specialised training programmes have been implemented for border crossing personnel. These programmes will include a trainer training system for adaptation to the Entry Exit System and ETIAS.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

6.1.3 REINFORCED COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES IN THE AREA OF BORDER MANAGEMENT.

Please list any 2018 agreements, and other forms of bilateral and multilateral cooperation with third countries with an objective to strengthen the operational capacity in combatting irregular migration and controlling of external borders.

Title of agreement (where relevant)	Third country (countries) with whom the cooperation exists	Description (e.g. provision of border equipment, training of border guards, etc.)
	Mauritania	Mixed patrols between the Spanish Civil Guard and Mauritania Gendarmerie, carried out by virtue of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two countries, in order to improve surveillance of air, sea and land borders.

	Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry and Gambia	Blue Sahel Project (Civil Guard), consisting of: 1. Joint border surveillance patrols, training, provision of technical equipment for vehicles. 2. Creation of a Canine Unit in the Mali Gendarmerie, including training. 3. Training on river border surveillance for the Mali, Mauritania and Senegal Gendarmerie. 4. Training on sea border surveillance and risk analysis for Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Gambia and Senegal. 5. Training on the relationship between border surveillance and fundamental rights of the countries shown.
	Honduras	Training of auxiliary personnel and airline personnel with regard to document control.

If information is available, please describe any evidence of the effectiveness of these measures

6.2 VISA POLICY

Were there any new developments in relation to the implementation of the Visa Code and the Visa Information System (VIS) or any other Visa related developments, in particular in relation to cooperation between (Member) States' consulates and the set-up of joint consular services for visas in 2018? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
Spain has updated its visa management computer system to adapt it to the specifications of the Visa Information System (VIS).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

6.3 SCHENGEN GOVERNANCE

Were there any new developments in relation to Schengen governance during 2018? Y/N NO

Where relevant, please include any (planned) actions in relation to the new Schengen acquis, temporary suspension of Schengen, etc.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

7 IRREGULAR MIGRATION INCLUDING MIGRANT SMUGGLING

During 2018, a total of 62,126 people arrived irregularly on our coasts, while in 2017 this figure was 27,253. To address this, measures have been adopted to assist people arriving on Spanish coasts. In addition to this, it is necessary to strengthen cooperation with countries of origin and transit to prevent irregular migration.

In July 2018, to address the increased arrivals of immigrants on Spanish coasts, an Emergency Plan was approved, allocated 29,700,000 euros. This Plan has involved the strengthening and redefinition of the Coast Assistance Programme and the Humanitarian Assistance Programme. Additionally, new humanitarian assistance places have been opened. Along with this, Emergency Reception and Referral Centres have been created. In turn, the State Secretary for Migration is creating an action protocol to address the arrival of large contingents of irregular immigrants.

7.1 PREVENTING AND TACKLING OF MISUSE OF LEGAL MIGRATION CHANNELS

7.1.1 IRREGULAR MIGRATION AS A RESULT OF VISA LIBERALISATION

Were there any new developments introduced in 2018 to prevent irregular migration as a result of visa liberalisation? YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
Surveillance of the perimeter of the ports of Santander and Bilbao had to be increased due to attempts of Albanian migrants to board ferries to the United Kingdom. The travel documents of the passengers travelling to the United Kingdom from small Spanish airports must be reviewed carefully for falsifications by Albanian citizens, among others.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

7.1.1.1 Effects of visa free regimes

Were there any new developments to monitor the effects of visa free regimes in your (Member) State in 2018? Y/NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

7.1.1.2 Key findings of monitoring activities

Please describe the results/key findings of these monitoring activities – especially in relation to impact on the number unfounded asylum applications registered in your (Member) State.

7.1.2 IRREGULAR MIGRATION AS A RESULT OF MISUSE OF LEGAL MIGRATION CHANNELS

7.1.1.3 Misuse of legal migration channels by third-country national workers

Were there any new developments in 2018 to tackle misuse of legal migration channels by third-country national workers? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
As has been mentioned, within the circular migration programme with Morocco, work is being carried out to strengthen certain aspects of the programme, such as hiring in origin to improve the programme and encourage returns for participation in the following season.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

7.1.1.4 Misuse of legal migration channels by third-country national students and researchers

Were there any new developments in 2018 to tackle misuse of legal migration channels by third-country national students and researchers? Y/NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

7.1.1.5 Misuse of family reunification migration channels

Were there any new developments in 2018 to tackle misuse of family reunification migration channels? Y/NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

7.1.3 FALSE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Were there any new developments in 2018 to prevent, identify and/or investigate fraudulent acquisition and use of false travel documents? YES.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
In 2018 various cases were investigated related with increased requests for international protection on the boarder by people bearing false documents.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation

	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
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**Please tick the appropriate box*

7.1.4 IRREGULAR MIGRATION CAUSED BY THE MISUSE OF FREE MOVEMENT RIGHTS BY THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS AND PREVENTING THE FRAUDULENT ACQUISITION AND USE OF FREE MOVEMENT RIGHTS BY THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS

Were there any new developments in 2018 to prevent the fraud and misuse of free movement rights? Y/NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

7.2 THE FIGHT AGAINST FACILITATION OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION ('SMUGGLING') AND PREVENTION OF IRREGULAR STAY

7.2.1 COMBATTING FACILITATION OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION (SMUGGLING)

Were there any new developments aimed at preventing and combatting facilitation of irregular migration (smuggling), including facilitation of unauthorised entry in 2018? YES.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
In 2018 sea border surveillance activities increased.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
Participation in joint Frontex operations hosted by Spain and other Member States was also strengthened.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
As a consequence of the increased irregular arrivals by the western Mediterranean route, cooperation and information exchanges were increased with third countries through additions and liaison officers in those carried out.	

**Please tick the appropriate box*

7.2.2 PREVENTION OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Were there any new developments responding to the objective of prevention of irregular migration from third countries of origin and transit (information campaigns, websites, projects with grass-roots NGOs or involving the diaspora, etc., with the exception of cooperation activities with third countries to be reported in section 7.2.4) in 2018? **Y/NO**

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

7.2.3 PREVENTION OF IRREGULAR STAY

Were there any new developments aimed at preventing irregular stay and combatting facilitation of irregular stay, including disincentives and sanctions in 2018? Y/NO

Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

7.2.4 COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES TO PREVENT IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Were there any specific cooperation activities developed in 2018 in your (Member) State to prevent irregular migration in relation to the specific regions outlined below? Y/N.

If **yes**, please elaborate below.

<p>a) The Western and Southern Mediterranean countries (i.e. Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania Palestine*, Syria and Tunisia);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The exchange of information through Spanish-Moroccan Joint Investigation Teams increased, resulting in the successful conclusion of operations in both countries. - <u>BLUE SAHEL AND EL KSAR</u>: In 2017 the BLUE SAHEL and EL KSAR projects were developed, for execution in the 2017-2019 period and a continuation of the route taken to consolidate relationships and cooperation with countries that participated in the previous SEAHORSE and WEST SAHEL projects. - Permanent Spanish-Moroccan Group on Migration Issues
<p>b) The Eastern Partnership countries (i.e. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine);</p>
<p>c) The Western Balkans countries (i.e. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia);</p>
<p>d) Countries in the African Atlantic coast (e.g. Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast etc.).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active and successful cooperation with the Nigerian National Agency Against Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) - Blue Sahel Project (see above)

7.2.5 MONITORING AND IDENTIFYING IRREGULAR MIGRATION ROUTES

Were there any new developments with regard to identifying, monitoring and aggregating information on irregular migration routes in 2018? Y/N YES

If yes, please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Please explain how this information is used to develop your (Member) State's response to migratory flows.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
See above on the Authority for Coordination of the Strat and Alboran Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

Intensification of monitoring of the central African route (Niger, Mali, Algeria, Morocco), leading to the western Mediterranean route

- Legislation
- Policy
- Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

8 TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

This Section should be completed in the context of the "EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings (2012-2016)" and related Communication¹¹. You should liaise with your National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings or Equivalent Mechanism (NREMs).

Please note that the scope of this section refers only to third-country national victims of trafficking.

NREMs share information with the Commission (via the informal EU Network of NREMs) on a biannual basis on developments relevant to their national legal and policy framework. This information can be used for this reporting exercise too. All information is uploaded accordingly to the EU Anti-Trafficking Website under the section of national pages.¹²

8.1 NATIONAL STRATEGIC POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

Were there any new developments or actions regarding the prevention and/or the fight against trafficking in human beings of third-country nationals (e.g. national action plans or national strategies introduced during 2018)? Y/N YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>The work that Spain has been doing in this area has been acknowledged by the GRETA Report of 2018. Nevertheless, combatting human trafficking must continue. For this purpose, preventive activities have been increased through administrative inspections in work centres.</p> <p>Additionally, 4 pillars of action by the State Attorney General can be highlighted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased investigations related with trafficking for labour exploitation. 2. Creation of an Annex to the Framework Protocol on minors who are victims of trafficking. 3. Investigation of trafficking crimes for the purpose of forced marriages has been enhanced and improved. 4. The case of slave children has been analysed. 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
<p>Additionally, development of the 2015-2018 Comprehensive Plan to Combat the Trafficking of Women and Girls for sexual exploitation has continued and various projects aimed at training and awareness have been financed, executed by non-profit entities.</p> <p>Furthermore, the National Police Plan Against Human Trafficking for sexual exploitation continues to operate, as well as the Central Brigade Against Human Trafficking, attached to the General Department of Foreign Persons and Borders of the National Police.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

8.2 IMPROVING IDENTIFICATION OF AND PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

8.2.1 PROVISION OF INFORMATION ON ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL VICTIMS

Were there any new developments in relation to the improvement of the provision of information and assistance to third-country national victims (including child victims and applicants for asylum) during 2018? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

12. ¹¹ Communication (COM (2017) 728 Final) Reporting on the follow-up to the EU Strategy towards the Eradication of trafficking in human beings and identifying further concrete actions, available at <http://ec.europa.eu/anti-trafficking/>

13. ¹² EU Strategy towards the Eradication of trafficking in human beings, EU Member States, at <https://ec.europa.eu/anti-trafficking/member-states>

Development <i>(Please describe)</i>	Nature*
a) Training and awareness raising;	
Work is continuing on improving information, training and awareness, both in origin, to prevent the capture of potential victims, and in destination, to raise the population's awareness, increase reporting and reduce the demand for services which lead to human trafficking. Thus, the "Don't invest in suffering" campaign continues with the hashtag #contraltratademujeresTOMACONCIENCIA (#againsttraffickingwomenBEAWARE).	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
Improvement of training is continuing for the agents involved, as well as judges and magistrates in charge of these issues. Work is also continuing in coordination with the NGOs integrated in the Spanish Network against Trafficking.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Measures on cooperation between national authorities;	
Meetings have continued to be held by the Committee monitoring the application of the Framework Protocol for the Protection of Victims of Trafficking for sexual exploitation and the National Rapporteur on Human Trafficking for coordination and information on this matter. There continues to be permanent cooperation between the Security Forces and Bodies and social bodies which work in this field.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
The Meeting of the Interterritorial Council of the National Health System (SNS) approved the annex "Healthcare action against trafficking for sexual exploitation", whose purpose is raising awareness of the specific characteristics of trafficking of women and girls for sexual exploitation in the context of healthcare services. Additionally, it intends to establish guidelines for the early detection of potential victims of trafficking or sexual exploitation, as well as action against highlighted cases, in order to guarantee homogenous action throughout the territory of the state. Specifically, the approved annex contains a series of orientations so that women and girls who have suffered these situations and who can visit any healthcare service may be referred to the appropriate resources for full assistance and protection, thereby ensuring the exercise of their rights and their physical, psychological, emotional and social recovery. This document also represents a tool for contributing to awareness and training of healthcare personnel on the different forms of violence against women, as well as trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes and its serious impact on their health. Additionally, it intends to encourage collaboration and coordination between professionals and resources within and outwith the healthcare system, as well as promoting the empowerment of women so that they are aware of their situation, facilitating their self-identification as victims and making decisions on their recovery.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Measures on cooperation between (Member) States.	
The State Attorney General has attended the calls made by different bodies of the EU, Council of Europe, OSCE and United Nations and has also collaborated as an expert in combatting trafficking and in the area of unaccompanied minors.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

8.2.2 IDENTIFICATION OF VICTIMS

Were there any new developments in relation to the improvement of the identification of victims (including child victims and applicants for asylum) during 2018? Y/NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development <i>(Please describe)</i>	Nature*
a) Training and awareness raising;	

	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Measures on cooperation between national authorities;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Measures on cooperation between (Member) States.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

8.2.3 COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

Were there any new developments involving cooperation with third-countries on the prevention and fight against trafficking in human beings in 2018? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development <i>(Please describe)</i>	Nature*
a) Training and awareness raising;	
Training actions aimed at third country agents have continued to be carried out.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
b) Joint investigation teams;	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
c) Information and prevention campaigns.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

**Please tick the appropriate box*

9 RETURN AND READMISSION

9.1 ENHANCING RETURN MIGRATION MANAGEMENT INCLUDING COOPERATION AMONG EU MEMBER STATES ON RETURN PRACTICES

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS **SECTION 9.1** OF THE SYNTHESIS REPORT WILL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING

- 9.1.1.** Summary of the EMN REG return and reintegration activities developed during 2017 (To be drafted by the EMN Service Provider)
- 9.1.2.** Summary of the Frontex Return Implementation Framework, including Joint Return Operations (JTOs) (To be provided by Frontex)
- 9.1.3.** Maximising the potential of a common EU approach in the field of return, both voluntary and forced in compliance with existing EU acquis (To be drafted by COM)

9.2 MAIN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF RETURN

9.2.1 SWIFT, SUSTAINABLE AND EFFECTIVE RETURN

9.2.1.1 General policy developments in the area of return

Were there any new developments with regard to the development of swift, sustainable and effective return in 2018? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

9.2.1.2 Issuing Return decisions

Were there any new developments with regard to issuing return decisions in 2018? Y/N.

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

9.2.1.3 Issuing Entry bans

Were there any new developments with regard to issuing entry bans in 2018? Y/NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

9.2.1.4 (Assisted) voluntary return

Were there any new developments with regard to (assisted) voluntary return in 2018? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>Although voluntary return is not necessarily linked with irregular immigration, it is also important to refer to the data that it offers, as it is well known that this type of return must be preferred to forced return, even when both are necessary.</p> <p>Voluntary return programmes offer the possibility of returning foreign persons (immigrants, asylum seekers, refugees, people with subsidiary protection status) who state their wish to return to their country of origin and who fulfil the general and specific requirements of each modality of the programme.</p> <p>The social assistance voluntary return programme, aimed at immigrants who are nationals of third countries in a special situation of vulnerability is the largest. In October 2018, 784 case were attended to.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

9.2.1.5 Use of (alternatives for) detention in return procedures

Were there any new developments with regard to the use of detention and alternatives to detention in return procedures in 2018? Y/N YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
Work has been carried out on improving the selection of people to whom internment applies in order to increase the rate of success upon return.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

9.2.1.6 Recording of entry bans in the SIS and exchange of information

Were there any new developments with regard to recording entry bans in the SIS and facilitating the exchange of information on entry bans in 2018?¹³ Y/N. NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

14. ¹³ This category of measure relates to the commitments of the Stockholm Programme specifically.

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
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*Please tick the appropriate box

9.2.1.7 Operation of national forced return monitoring system

Were there any new developments with regard to the operation of the national forced return monitoring system (established in accordance with Article 8 (6) of the Return Directive) in 2018?¹⁴ Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
The number of controlled return operations has increased.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

9.2.1.8 Other actions related to swift, sustainable and effective return

Were there any new developments related to the field of return in 2018 which were not covered above? Y/N. NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

9.2.2 RETURN OF REJECTED ASYLUM SEEKERS

Were there any new developments regarding the return of rejected asylum applicants (including measures in relation to reception and supports, (alternatives) to detention, etc.) in 2018? Y/N. NO

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Please specify if there are any specific measures for unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable groups¹⁵.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

15. ¹⁴ Directive 2008/115/EC

16. ¹⁵ This group includes minors, disabled people, elderly people, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, and intersex (LGBTQI) people, pregnant women, single parents with minor children, persons with serious illnesses, persons with mental disorders and persons who have been subjected to torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence, such as victims of female genital mutilation.

*Please tick the appropriate box

9.2.3 RETURN OF IRREGULAR MIGRANTS

Were there any new developments to ensure the swift return of persons, overstaying permissions to stay or otherwise misusing legal migration channels in 2018? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Please specify if there are any specific measures for unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable groups.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
<p>The existing agreements on readmission and return of immigrants are integrated within a global vision of cooperation with countries of origin and transit with the objective of jointly preventing irregular movement, as well as combatting human trafficking and smuggling, and in the case of migrants being in an irregular situation in Spain, proposing their return.</p> <p>It is therefore considered essential to enter into agreements on the return of migrants which, taking into account all interests at stake, disincentivise irregular immigration and human trafficking and smuggling networks, in turn allowing the channelling of immigration toward regular channels and enhancing international cooperation on the issue.</p> <p>As is well known, the European Union emphasises the need to effectively and efficiently apply existing return agreements and promote the negotiation of new agreements in this regard. In all cases, Spain favours voluntary returns. Nevertheless, agreements which favour readmissions in cases of forced returns are considered essential.</p> <p>Spain has signed 16 bilateral readmission agreements for people in irregular situations. Additionally, the cooperation framework agreements on immigration signed with Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, Mali and Niger, encompass commitments of the parties in order, within available possibilities and resources, to mutually assist each other in aspects such as voluntary and assisted return programmes and police and operational assistance to combat irregular immigration, etc.</p> <p>New agreements not having been signed does not mean that no progress is being made in cooperation in the field of return and readmission, as this may materialise through different instruments and not only through formal treaties. Cooperation on returns requires a variety of instruments which are adapted to different situations, so that voluntary return instruments also coincide along with forced repatriations.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

9.2.4 EVIDENCE OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MEASURES TO ENSURE RETURN

Please provide information regarding the **effectiveness** of the above-mentioned measures in ensuring return (where evidence exists and stating how this is measured).

9.3 STRENGTHENING COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND TRANSIT ON RETURN AND REINTEGRATION MANAGEMENT

9.3.1 INVOLVEMENT OF THIRD COUNTRIES IN RETURN MEASURES

Were there any new developments regarding return activities implemented in cooperation with third countries in 2018? Y/N. YES

If **yes**, please elaborate below. Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
Spain has participated in the voluntary return programmes of the OIM from Morocco (since 2013) and from Mauritania (since 2016).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

9.3.2 ENSURING IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL EU READMISSION AGREEMENTS TO THEIR FULL EFFECT¹⁶

Please report on activities undertaken to support the implementation of **EU readmission agreements** (implementing protocols, cooperation (including diplomatic pressure) with third countries to encourage implementation) by completing the table and providing any additional relevant information in the box below:

EU Readmission agreement (country)	National development (i.e. implementing protocol, cooperation)	Date of agreement (if relevant)
Albania	In 2018 the bilateral protocol was signed with Albania for the Readmission Agreement between the European Union and Albania.	

9.3.3 REINTEGRATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTED IN COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES, E.G. COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN.

Were there any new developments regarding reintegration activities implemented in cooperation with countries of origin in 2018? Y/N YES

Measures to support reintegration may include developing a rights-based framework for re-integration and for temporary and circular migration.

Please indicate the nature of each development in the tick boxes below.

Development (Please describe)	Nature*
Spain maintains its voluntary return programmes, particularly those which have a reintegration component.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other
In December, the President of the Government travelled to Mali. During his visit, he highlighted the importance of combatting emigration mafias which operate in Sahel, and agreed the implementation of a pilot project with the Prime Minister of Mali for assisted voluntary return for immigrants from the country.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice/Other

*Please tick the appropriate box

17. ¹⁶ Norway is invited to report on any national agreements in place.



**GOBIERNO
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MINISTERIO
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Y COOPERACIÓN

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DE TRABAJO, MIGRACIONES
Y SEGURIDAD SOCIAL