

# **Common Template of EMN Study 2020**

# Attracting and Protecting Seasonal Workers from third countries in the EU

#### National Contribution from Slovenia

<u>Disclaimer</u>: The following information has been provided primarily for the purpose of contributing to a synthesis report for this EMN study. The EMN NCP has provided information that is, to the best of its knowledge, up-to-date, objective and reliable within the context and confines of this study. The information may thus not provide a complete description and may not represent the entirety of the official policy of the EMN NCPs' Member State.

#### Top-line factsheet [max. 1 page]

The top-line factsheet will serve as an overview of the **national contribution** introducing the study and drawing out key facts and figures from across all sections, with a particular emphasis on elements that will be of relevance to (national) policy-makers. Please add any innovative or visual presentations that can carry through into the synthesis report as possible infographics and visual elements.

Please provide a concise summary of the main findings of Sections 0-3:

Slovenia relies on seasonal workers from third countries to fill labour market needs, especially at agricultural sector. Reason for that is the nature of short-term work and specificity of work. Slovenia is unable to meet the needs of this type of work with a domestic workforce.

Seasonal workers have two possibilities: apply for work permit for seasonal work up to 90 days or apply for single permit for seasonal work longer than 90 days. Most of seasonal workers stay in Slovenia on the basis of work permit (up to 90 days) and come from countries which are historically and geographically linked with Slovenia, that is from Bosnia and Hercegovina and Serbia.

Protection of seasonal workers and their rights in Slovenia is well established and takes place with the participation of various actors: Labour Inspectorate, Workers' Consultation Organization, Police, Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry.

Since most of agricultural work in Slovenia is done in Spring and Autumn, Covid-19 situation affected seasonal workers. Few temporary measures were introduced to mitigate and remedy the consequences of the COVID-19 epidemic. Last and most important measure regarding seasonal work was adopted on 30 May 2020 and stipulates that seasonal work may be performed for up to 150 days on the basis of an issued work permit.

#### Section 0: Impact of COVID-19

a.	Has the COVID-19 situation affected the seasonal workers admission policy of your Member State with regard to third-country nationals?
	Yes ⊠ No □

Temporary Measures Act Relating to Judicial, Administrative and Other Public Legal Matters for the Control of the Spread of Infectious Disease SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*], No. 36/20 and 61/20 of 20 March 2020) extended the validity of the single residence and work permits for seasonal work longer than 90 days (as well as all other residence permits) issued to third-country nationals and residence registration certificates issued to citizens of EEA member states who perform seasonal work in the Republic of Slovenia (as well as all other residence registration certificates issued to citizens of EEA member states), which expired during the validity of the said Act, for a further period of 8 days after the termination of measures under the said Act.

Residence permits and residence registration certificates for citizens of EEA member states ceased to be valid before this date if the Government finds that the reasons behind the measures referred to in the Act have ceased to exist and publishes a decision to this effect.

Government published a Decision on the finding of termination of temporary measures in relation with judicial, administrative and other public matters to cope with the spread of infectious disease SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*], No. 74/20 of 21 May 2020), which came into force 1 June 2020. By that decision all temporary residence permits and residence registration certificates for citizens of EEA member states (which expired during the taken temporary measures) will cease to be valid 9 June 2020.

b. What measures regarding seasonal work have been taken or are planned as a result of the COVID-19 situation?

Act Determining the Intervention Measures to Contain the COVID-19 Epidemic and Mitigate its Consequences for Citizens and the Economy (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*], No. 49/20 and 61/20 of 2 April 2020) enabled persons whose employer has ordered them to wait at home, to perform temporary and occasional work in agriculture on the basis of civil law contracts and with the consent of the employer.

Act Determining the Intervention Measures to Mitigate and Remedy the Consequences of the COVID-19 Epidemic (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*], No. 80/20 of 30 May 2020) stipulates that seasonal work may be performed for up to 150 days on the basis of an issued work permit. Until the adoption of this law, seasonal workers could perform seasonal work on the basis of a work permit only for a maximum of 90 days. This measure will take effect until the end of 2020.

Research Question 1: What is the profile of third-country national seasonal workers in the EU?<sup>1</sup>

Please note that all questions in this section refer to seasonal workers covered by the Directive, except for questions 2b, 11, 12 and 13.

# Sub-questions:

-qu	estions:	
1.	Has you	r Member State admitted third-country seasonal workers under the Directive?
	Yes ⊠ No □	
2.	What a	re the sectors covered by the Seasonal Workers Directive in your Member State? <sup>2</sup> Please explain.
- for	the basis estry riculture	s of Directive 2014/36/EU Slovenia listed following sectors applicable for seasonal workers:
		sectors are explicitly mentioned in Act concerning employment of foreigners (Employment, Self- t and Work of Foreigners Act).
	a.	In which sector(s) were seasonal workers mostly employed in 2018? <sup>3</sup>
	Ple	ase explain.
Alm	ost 95%	of all seasonal workers are employed in agriculture.
	b.	Are there sectors of seasonal work that are not covered by the Directive?
		Yes □ No⊠
3.	What w	ere the top-5 countries of origin of seasonal workers in your Member State in 2018? <sup>4</sup>
Nati	onals o	ntries in 2018 were: Bosnia and Hercegovina, Serbia, Moldova, Ukraine and North Macedonia. f Bosnia and Hercegovina and Serbia strongly prevail due to geographical proximity, historical and almost non-exiting language barriers (linguistic similarities).
		e also record the number of seasonal workers from Ukraine for the first time (which will increase in 2019).
	k permi dence p	ts for seasonal work (with validity up to 90 days) prevail. Only 16% of issued permits represent ermits.
4.	What w	ras the main age group of seasonal workers who received an authorisation in 2018 in your Member State? <sup>5</sup>
Data	a not ava	ailable.
	ostion dos	or not have to be answered by EMN NCDs. This question will guide the parretive for the section in the synthesis report

 $<sup>^{1}\,</sup>$  This question does not have to be answered by EMN NCPs. This question will guide the narrative for the section in the synthesis report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Art.2(2) of the Seasonal Workers Directives requires Member States to list those sectors of employment which include activities that are dependent on the passing of the seasons requires<sup>2</sup> To be cross-checked with Eurostat data

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Please cross-check with Eurostat data. If data for your Member State is not available on Eurostat, please use the same categorisation of sectors provided in Eurostat to the extent possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Please cross-check with Eurostat data. If data for your Member State is not available on Eurostat, please use the same categorisation of sectors provided in Eurostat to the extent possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Please refer to the following age groups in your answer: 15-19; 20-24; 25-29; 30-34; 35-39; 40-44 etc.

5.	What was the gender distribution of seasonal workers who received an authorisation in 2018 in your Member State?
In 2	018 male seasonal workers prevail; 33% of seasonal workers are female.
	e look at the trend of the female population among the seasonal workers in the period 2017-2019, we find that share of women is increasing (2017: 32%, 2018:33%, 2019:41%).
6.	Does your Member State have a minimum salary set in law?
	Yes ⊠ No □
The 886	minimum gross salary for payment for work performed from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019: EUR .63
The 940	minimum gross salary for payment for work performed from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020: EUR ,58
7.	What was the average/minimum salary of seasonal workers in 2018?
Rep 1,68 4,73	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food explained that (based on data from the Statistical Office of the bublic of Slovenia), the average monthly gross salary in 2017 amounted to EUR 1,626.95, and in 2018 to EUR 31.55. The average monthly wage index is calculated at 1.033559728, which raises the hourly rate from EUR 3 in 2018 and EUR 4.79 in 2019 to EUR 4.95 gross. Due to special circumstances in 2020 the hourly rate is at EUR 5.16 gross.
8.	What was the average duration of stay of third-country nationals who were granted authorisation for seasonal work in 2018 in your Member State?
Mos	st seasonal workers stay for the period up to 90 days.
9.	Is there a specific period of the year where there is more need for seasonal workers?
	Yes ⊠ No □
Spri	ng and Autumn, due to work and growth cycles in agriculture.
10.	Does your Member State collect information about the skills level of seasonal workers (for example information on education or qualification level, language level or level of experience of the seasonal workers)?
	Yes □ No ⊠
11.	Are there any alternative categories of migrant workers who perform temporary work of a cyclical nature who are not covered by the Seasonal Workers Directive? Please only consider those categories of seasonal workers which show the same characteristics, or very similar ones, as those covered by the Directive (duration of stay in Member State, cyclical nature of their work, main residence outside the Member State, etc.)?
	Yes □ No ⊠
12.	If applicable, what are the main differences between those migrant workers covered by the Seasonal Workers  Directive and those not covered by the Directive in terms of their background information (age, gender, country of

In general, there is no specific difference between seasonal workers from third countries and EU countries. In 2020 the noticed difference is in possibility of transiting member states to get to work destination.

origin)?

13. In your Member State, are seasonal work activities known to be performed by irregular migrants?		
Yes □ No ⊠		
Section 2: Attraction of seasonal workers to address labour market needs		
<b>Research Question 2:</b> To what extent do Member States place specific efforts on attracting seasonal workers to address labour market needs? <sup>6</sup>		
Please note that all questions in this section refer to seasonal workers covered by the Directive, except for question 19.		
Sub-questions:		

<sup>6</sup> This question does not have to be answered by EMN NCPs. This question will guide the narrative for the section in the synthesis report.

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14. Is the e	ntry and stay of seasonal workers from third countries part of your overall migration policy?
Yes ⊠	
No 🗆	
	sonal workers are third country nationals (non EU nationals). Main point in strategy is facilitating rocedures for those seasonal workers who are returning annually.
15. Did you	r Member State develop measures to attract seasonal workers?
Yes □ No ⊠	
16. Does yo	our Member State rely on seasonal workers from third countries to fill labour market needs?
Yes ⊠	
No 🗆	
If yes, fo	or which sectors and what are these labour market needs? Please explain.
sector. Rea	lies on seasonal workers from third countries to fill labour market needs, especially at agricultural son for that is the nature of short-term work and specificity of work. Slovenia is unable to meet the s type of work with a domestic workforce.
a.	Did the migration of seasonal workers who came to your Member State between 2016-2019 help to address the labour market needs of your Member State?
Yes ⊠	
No □	e extent $\square$
areas where	on of seasonal workers in period 2016 – 2019 addressed the labour market needs in Slovenia. In the e a specific crops that needs specialized knowledge (hops, olives,) is grown was noted that that relations between workers and employers were established.
For these sp	pecific agricultural work Slovenia can not provide sufficient domestic work force.
17. Does yo	our Member State implement an annual quota for seasonal workers?
Yes □	
No ⊠	
a.	If yes, is this a general quota or is it applied to specific sectors or to certain third countries?
	Not applicable.
b.	If yes, was this quota fulfilled between 2016-2019?
	Yes □ No □
	vas the average processing time and costs (in euros) for applications from third-country nationals for the e of carrying out seasonal work in 2018?

Application fee for work permit for seasonal work up to 90 days is EUR 4.50 and issuance tax is EUR 50.00. Work permits are dealt with as a matter of priority; average processing time is 5-15 days.

Application fee for single permit for seasonal work for period more than 90 days is EUR 4.50, issuance tax is EUR 70.00 and price for biometric card is EUR 12.00. Processing time for single permit is up to 60 days. Average processing time for all single permits (not just single permit for seasonal work) in 2018 was 24 days.

19.	nature who are not covered by the Seasonal Workers Directive (see question 11):		
	a.	Does your Member State have one or more specific national schemes to cover these categories?	
		Yes □ No ⊠	
	b.	What is the reason for the existence of such specific national schemes? I.e. Why are employers more likely to use these national schemes instead of the one established in the Directive?	
Not	applicat	ole.	
20.	Does yo	our Member State apply a labour market test to seasonal workers?	
	Yes □ No ⊠		
21.	Does yo	our Member State facilitate the re-entry of seasonal workers? <sup>7</sup>	
	Yes ⊠ No □		
five prio	years, d ity, as s	reigner has had a single permit for seasonal work longer than 90 days issued at last once in the last lecision on his application for new single permit for seasonal work longer than 90 days is issued with soon as possible but no later than 20 days from the receipt of the complete application, as provided in 5 of Foreigners Act.	
22.	Does yo	our Member State cooperate with third countries to attract seasonal workers (e.g. bilateral or multilateral ents)?	
	Yes □ No ⊠		
23.	Who ar	e the relevant actors in attracting seasonal workers (e.g. recruitment agencies)?	
Farr	ners the	emselves are main actors in attracting seasonal workers.	
24.	How are	e employers informed about the procedure for hiring seasonal workers?	
Sup	port is p	provided by specialized agricultural advisers and institutions.	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This question refers to measures included within Art. 16 of the Directive and any other measures. Art. 16 of the Seasonal Workers Directive provides that Member States shall facilitate re-entry of third-country nationals who were admitted to that Member State as seasonal workers at least once within the previous five years, and who fully respected the conditions applicable to seasonal workers under this Directive during each of their stays. The facilitate may include measures such as: the grant of an exemption from the requirement to submit one or more of the documents necessary for admission,; the issuing of several seasonal worker permits in a single administrative act; an accelerated procedure leading to a decision on the application for a seasonal worker permit or a long stay visa; priority in examining applications for admission as a seasonal worker.

work (i.e. if they find another job, a permanent contract, etc)?
Yes ⊠ No □
Seasonal worker with valid single permit for seasonal work longer than 90 days may lodge an application for further residence permit due to change of status (reason for his stay in Slovenia changed).
Seasonal worker with issued work permit for 90 days work can not apply for residence permit within the territory of Republic of Slovenia. Such an application is possible only in exceptional changes of status that is regulated by law (i.e. if a seasonal worker enrolls in the study, due to the interest of the state, etc).
26. Has your Member State carried out an evaluation of the implementation of the Seasonal workers Directive at national level? If so, did it conclude anything as to whether the introduced measures were sufficient in attracting seasonal workers?
Yes ⊠ No □
An evaluation of the implementation of the Seasonal workers Directive was made by DG Home (study) in 2019. Unfortunately no public access to that study is available.
27. Is your Member State aware of any misuse (e.g. employers hiring third-country seasonal workers for non-seasonal work) in the application of the Directive?
Yes □ No ⊠
28. Are there any good practice examples in relation to the attraction of seasonal workers in your Member State?
Yes □ No ⊠
Section 3: Protection and rights of seasonal workers
<b>Research Question 3:</b> How does the Seasonal Workers Directive achieve its goal of protecting seasonal workers and their rights? <sup>8</sup>
Please note that all questions in this section refer to seasonal workers covered by the Directive, except question 39 and 40.

**Sub-questions:** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> This question does not have to be answered by EMN NCPs. This question will guide the narrative for the section in the synthesis report.

and nat		cionals of your Member State who carry out comparable employment activities, particularly with rega
	a.	Family benefits; <sup>9</sup>
		Yes □ No ⊠
	b.	Unemployment benefits;
		Yes □ No ⊠
	c.	Educational and vocational training not linked to the specific employment activity; 10
		Yes □ No ⊠
	d.	Tax benefits in cases where the registered or usual place of residence of the family members of the seasonal worker for whom he/she claims benefits, does not lie in the territory of the Member State concerned. <sup>11</sup>

29. Does your Member State apply restrictions to the equal treatment between seasonal workers from third countries

In general, tax benefits in cases where the registered or usual place of residence of the family members of the seasonal worker for whom he/she claims benefits, does not lie in the territory of Slovenia depend on conclusion of an international agreement on avoidance of double taxation of income between Slovenia and country of residence of family members of seasonal worker.

Yes  $\boxtimes$ 

A seasonal worker from a third country who becomes a resident of the Republic of Slovenia for tax purposes (has working contract for more than 183 days) may claim relief for dependent family members if family member is a resident of a country with which Slovenia has concluded an international agreement on avoidance of double taxation of income.

If a taxable person, a seasonal worker, is considered a resident of Slovenia, the income earned in the tax year (in Slovenia and outside Slovenia) is included in the annual tax base for the assessment of personal income tax. In the case of annual assessment of personal income tax, a taxpayer, a resident who maintains family members, is granted a reduction of the annual tax base for a special relief for dependent family members if family member is a resident of a country with which Slovenia has concluded an international agreement on avoidance of double taxation of income.

e. Are there any practical difficulties to ensuring equal treatment in the areas defined in the Directive?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Art. 23(2)(i) of the Seasonal Workers Directive provides that Member States may restrict equal treatment under point (d) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 1 by excluding family benefits and unemployment benefits, without prejudice to Regulation € No1231/2010. <sup>10</sup> Art. 23(2)(ii) of the Seasonal Workers Directive provides that Member States may restrict equal treatment under point (g) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 1 by limiting its application to education and vocational training which is directly linked to the specific employment activity and by excluding study and maintenance grants and loans or other grants and loans.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Art. 23(2)(iii) of the Seasonal Workers Directive provides that Member States may restrict equal treatment under point (i) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 1 with respect to tax benefits by limiting its application to cases where the registered or usual place of residence of the family members of the seasonal worker for whom he/she claims benefits, lies in the territory of the Member State concerned.

Admission policies of seasonal workers from third countries in the EU and Norw	<i>ı</i> ay
Yes □ No ⊠	
30. Who are the most important actors in your Member State regarding the protection of seasonal workers' rights and what is their role? Please explain. Please distinguish between public and private actors in your answer (e.g. Trade Unions, Chambers of Commerce, etc.).	ł
All questions relating workers rights are dealt within the Economic and Social Council of the Republic of Sloven (ESC). The tripartite composition of the ESC entails representation of the three partners, namely representative of employees, employers and the government. Each of the partners appoints representatives to the ESC. Each partner has a maximum of 8 members. Each member may have an alternate. Employee representatives a appointed by national federations and trade union confederations, each representative federation or confederation of at least one member, and employers 'representatives by employers' associations and chambers operating the national territory. The composition of the representatives of each partner must ensure that the interests each partner involved in the tripartite social collusion are represented.	es ch are on in
31. Is there a framework in place enabling the transfer of pension contributions to origin countries?	
Yes ⊠ No □	
if yes, please explain. 12	
Yes, there is a framework in place enabling the transfer of pension contributions to origin countries in Sloveni Besides respectiong the Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 Ap 2004 on the coordination of social security systems, Slovenia concluded bilateral agreements with third countrie from which majority of seasonal workers come (Bosnia and Hercegovina, Serbia, Moldova, North Macedonia Such agreements on social security facilitate aggregations and transfer of funds.	oril es,
32. If your Member State has alternative categories of migrant workers performing temporary work not covered by the Directive, do these categories enjoy the same rights as those granted by the Directive?	e
Yes □ No □	
Slovenia has no alternative categories of migrant workers performing temporary work not covered by the Directive.	
33. What does your Member State consider an "adequate standard of living" in relation to accommodation? How does	ς

33. What does your Member State consider an "adequate standard of living" in relation to accommodation? How does your Member State ensure that seasonal workers benefit from an "accommodation that ensures an adequate standard of living" for the duration of his or her stay?<sup>13</sup>

Rules on minimum standards for accommodation of foreigners employed and working in the Republic of Slovenia (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*], No. 62/15 of 12 August 2015) define standards of accommodation for foreigners working in Slovenia. The minimum living and hygiene standards laid down in these rules must be guaranteed by the employer with whom a foreigner is employed or by the contracting authority of the work for which the foreigner performs work under a civil law contract if he gives the foreigner the accommodation he owns or rents, or owned or leased by a natural or legal person, whether or not associated with it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Art.23(1) provides that seasonal workers moving to a third country, or the survivors of such seasonal workers residing in a third-country deriving rights from the seasonal worker, shall receive statutory pensions based on the seasonal worker's previous employment and acquired in accordance with the legislation set out in Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004, under the same conditions and at the same rates as the nationals of the Member States concerned when they move to a third country

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Art. 20(1) provides that Member States shall require evidence that the seasonal workers will benefit from accommodation that ensures an adequate standard of living according to national law and/or practice, for the duration of his or her stay. The competent authority shall be informed of any change of accommodation of the seasonal worker.

a. Are there any good practices in relation to ensuring adequate accommodation, considering the temporary

nature of stay of seasonal workers?
Yes ⊠ No □
Responsible authortiy for exercising control over the exposed matter in Slovenia is the Labor Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia. In 2019, for example, inspectors dealt with the exploitation of 28 seasonal workers, citizens of Romania. During the supervision of a company registered for the sale of hops and other agricultural products, violations of the Rules on determining the minimum standards for the accommodation of aliens employed or working in the Republic of Slovenia were established. In accordance with the provisions of the Employment, Self-employment and Work of Foreigners Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [ <i>Uradni list RS</i> ], No. 1/18 – official consolidated version and 31/18 of 16 June 2015), a payment orders were issued to a legal entity and also to a responsible person.
34. Does your Member States have procedures/mechanisms in place to ensure that seasonal workers and their employers are informed of their rights and duties?
Yes ⊠ No □
The Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry has advisers that inform employers and employees.
35. Does your Member State have any specific procedures/mechanisms in place to monitor, assess and carry out inspections on whether: <sup>14</sup>
a. Seasonal workers can exercise their equal treatment rights and other rights granted in practice? How does that work and who are the actors involved?
Yes ⊠ No □
In the first place Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia gets involved. Besides Police active partner is also Workers' Consultation Organization (Delavska svetovalnica, www.delavskasvetovalnica.si) that is specialised for foreign workers and well connected to Labour Inspectorate, so that any information on mistreatment can be efficiently forwarded.
b. Seasonal workers abide by the rules (e.g. no overstaying)? How does that work and who are the actors involved?
Yes ⊠ No □
The Police is carrying out strict controls in the field of detecting illegal residence and undeclared work in cooperation with the Labour Inspectorate (and other inspectorates). An important segment is also the identification of violations at the exit from the country within the framework of border control. In this context, the border control mainly determines the exceeding of the permitted period of residence and check the circumstances of these violations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Art. 24 provides that Member States shall measures to prevent possible abuses and to sanction infringements of this Directive. Measures shall include monitoring, assessment and, where appropriate, inspection in accordance with national law or administrative practice (Directive 2014/36/EU).

	C.	Employers abide by the rules (e.g. no exploitation)? How does that work and who are the actors involved? Is there a focus on any specific economic sectors?
		Yes ⊠ No □
In maj steps i	•	employers abide by the rules. In case of detection of any kind of exploitation the Labour Inspection
36. D	oes yo	ur Member State collect statistics on the procedures/mechanisms described in question 35?
	es □ o ⊠	
		n seasonal workers lodge complaints against their employers? Did your Member State set up some specific ares to protect seasonal workers who lodge complaints?
	es ⊠ o □	
involve	ed with	Agriculture and Forestry, Labour Inspectorate and workers' consultation organization are usually a providing information and assitence workers at lodging complaints against employers. Such worker at to get another employer.
		re specific sanctions in place in your Member State against employers who have not fulfilled their duties ne Seasonal Workers Directive?
	es ⊠ o □	
	vity of	gainst employers who have not fulfilled their duties under the Seasonal Workers Directive depend the offense. Besides payment orders, the employer may receive also a temporary employment gners.
	_	ation authorities and labour authorities cooperate in relation to the monitoring of seasonal workers and aployers?
	es ⊠ o □	
to ens	ure se	Id labour authorities cooperate in relation to the monitoring of seasonal workers and their employers asonal workers' rights are protected. There is cooperation on the level of information exchange if any rities involved detect possibility of unlawful behaviour from any side (employer or seasonal worker).
40. H	as you	r Member State detected seasonal workers who are victims of exploitation or human trafficking?
	es □ o ⊠	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Art.25 provides that Member States shall ensure that there are effective mechanisms through which seasonal workers may lodge complaints against their employers directly or through third parties which have, in accordance with the criteria laid down by their national law, a legitimate interest in ensuring compliance with this Directive, or through a competent authority of the Member State when provided for by national law.

	been ensured in your Member State?
	Yes □ No ⊠
Section	4: Conclusions and lessons learned
	mment on the findings of your national report by drawing conclusions, and identifying any key challenges and lessons learned.
Please ma	ake reference to the three research questions of the study in your reply.

41. Are there any good practice examples or research/evaluation findings of how the rights of seasonal workers have

permanent relations between workers and employers in the areas of agricultural work where specific crop that needs specialized knowledge is grown.

Most seasonal workers stay in Slovenia for period up to 90 days on the basis of issued work permit. Noted are

is growing (from 33% of female seasonal workers in 2018 to 41% in 2019).

Slovenia admitted third-country seasonal workers under Seasonal Workers Directives. Mainly they provide workforce in agriculture sector and majority of them come from third countries - Bosnia and Hercegovina and Serbia. New group of seasonal workers which first appeared in 2018 are from Ukraine; in 2019 their number increased significantly (compared to 2018). Male seasonal workers prevail, but share of female seasonal workers

Slovenia applies no labour market tests to seasonal workers. Farmers as employers attract needed seasonal workers and they are supported by advisers and institutions in the field of agriculture.

Seasonal workers and their rights are well protected. No restrictions apply to the equal treatment between seasonal workers from third countries and nationals who carry out comparable employment activities. Workers are additionally protected by bilateral agreements with third countries that facilitate aggregations and trasfer of funds.

All questions relating workers rights are dealt within the Economic and Social Council of the Republic of Slovenia. Labour Inspectorate, Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry, Workers' Consultation Organisation (Delavska svetovalnica) and Police are main actors at preventing any mistreatment in the field.

Covid-19 situation showed us that quick reaction to the new reality was/is very important – especially in such flexible area of work as seasonal work is. As response to Covid-19 situation Slovenia introduced few temporary measures that affected also seasonal workers (i.e. legal stay in Slovenia despite expiration of work permit or residence permit). The last temporary measure, valid until the end of 2020, allows seasonal workers to perform seasonal work on the basis of work permit for 150 day (instead 90 days).

#### Annex: national statistics related to seasonal workers

42. Statistics related to seasonal workers are available within the general statistics for first permits for remunerated activities (migr\_resocc) and the specific datasets for authorisations for the purpose of seasonal work (migr\_ressw1\_1 and migr\_ressw2). In light of this, if your Member States reports statistics to Eurostat for dataset migr\_resocc but not for datasets migr\_ressw1\_1 and migr\_ressw2, do these general statistics indicate those covered by the Directive or not (or do they represent the alternative categories)? Can those be used in the absence of the specific statistics?

Slovenia reports Eurostat statistics that are covered by the Directive. Corrections had to be made for the year 2017 (Eurostat statistics included only seasonal workers with residence permit).

Slovenia is obliged to report statistics to Eurostat since 2017 (from 2017 on). We were not able to provide relevant data for 2016.

43. Please fill out/complete the statistical annex (shared with EMN NCPs on 13 March 2020).