

**Question for written answer E-002690/2023/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Filip De Man (ID)

Subject: EU Blue Card

Directive 2009/50/EC of 25 May 2009¹ provides for the issuance of a so-called EU Blue Card to highly skilled third-country nationals (minimum three years of higher education) who can then be employed in an EU Member State for a specified duration.

1. How many EU Blue Cards have been issued by Member States since the directive was published?
2. What proportion of highly skilled third-country nationals employed under this system in the EU have actually returned to their country once their employment contract has come to an end?
3. From which countries do most of these foreign nationals originate?

Submitted: 18.9.2023

¹ https://assets.vlaanderen.be/image/upload/v1681307047/CELEX_32009L0050_NL_TXT_gfhmvs.pdf