

LAUNCH OF THE ARABIC VERSION OF THE EU IMMIGRATION PORTAL

The EU Immigration Portal is now available in Arabic

Brussels, 24 October 2013 – Where do you apply for a German work permit? Does a Tunisian citizen need a residence permit to study in Italy? How can an Egyptian researcher work at a university in Sweden? And if you have been exploited for work, who can you call for support?

Commissioner Malmström said: "*Many people who want to move to the European Union do not know what possibilities exist, how to apply for a resident or work permit. This is why in November 2011, I launched the 'EU Immigration Portal'. Until now the Portal was only available in English, French and Spanish. I am very pleased that today the portal will also be available in Arabic and easily accessible to all those who are looking for information about sometimes complicated procedures.*"

The 'EU Immigration Portal' is a website with hands-on information for foreign nationals interested in moving to the EU. It offers a user-friendly explanation of the possibilities of legal migration into the EU and of the risks related to irregular migration. It is intended for potential immigrants, third-country nationals already in the EU and other stakeholders such as governments and NGOs.

The site, ec.europa.eu/immigration, offers more than 600 pages of text, bringing together the EU legislation on immigration and the immigration policies and procedures of the 28 Member States.

Background

The EU Immigration Portal is a first point of entry for up-to-date, practical information on EU and national immigration procedures and policies. Workers, researchers, students and those looking to join their families already in the EU can find information adapted to their needs, about the Member State they are interested in moving to. The Portal also links directly to the websites of national authorities dealing with immigration. Users can also find straightforward information about their rights and whether they need a visa to come to the EU.

The EU Immigration Portal explains how to enter EU borders legally and describes the risks related to irregular migration, such as trafficking and smuggling. Migrants and potential migrants also find a vast contact directory of governmental and non-governmental organisations which can help them. The Portal is also a valuable source of information for migrants' support organisations, as well as for immigration authorities, employment services and scholars.

The EU Immigration Portal is already available in English, French and Spanish at [http://ec.europa.eu/immigration/](http://ec.europa.eu/immigration). Now the Arabic version is launched. A Portuguese version of the site is underway.

In the development of the EU Immigration portal, the Commission carried out a broad consultation process, including organisations supporting migrants, trade-unions, employers' associations and faith-based groups from the countries of origin, transit and destination.

Useful Links

[Cecilia Malmström's website](#)

[DG Home Affairs website](#)

[EU Immigration Portal](#)

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