Summary

• Dutch immigration law
• Labour Migrants
• Knowledge Migrants
• Conclusions
Immigration Law

• Strict interpretation and application

• Exception for highly skilled migration (*kennis economie*)

• Main highly skilled migrant categories:
  - Labour Migrants (Intra-Company Transfer - ICT)
  - Knowledge Migrant Scheme (2004) → Accredited Sponsorship
Labour Migrants

• Standard / general process
  - Work Permit (4-7 weeks)
  - Entry clearance visa (8-10 weeks)
  - Residence Permit (3 months)

• Criteria
  - Group turnover: EUR 50 million
  - Salary threshold: 52.010 EUR
  - Degree or equivalent
  - Residence in NL > 3 months

➤ Labour Migrants (2011): 2,000
Knowledge Migrants

- Accredited Sponsorship
  - Combined application 2-4 weeks)
  - Salary threshold (<30: EUR 38.141 / >30: EUR 52.010)
  - Declarations

- Trust-based system
  - No contract
  - No police/medical clearances
  - No payslips

- Increased inspections and tougher penalties
  - EUR 3.000 per infringement (employer)
  - EUR 1.500 per infringement (client site)
  - Max. EUR 45.000

➤ Knowledge Migrants (2011): 5.880
Conclusions

• Specific migration policy for highly skilled migrants

• Cooperation with business: proactive
• Attracting and keeping businesses in NL economy

• Attracting and keeping highly skilled migrants

⇒ Kenniseconomie: economy + (outside) knowledge
⇒ Outward-facing civil service
Questions

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