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2026.20 Methodology for Calculating Periods of Absence

**European Migration Network
Ad-hoc query**

May, 2026

AD-HOC QUERY ON 2026.20 METHODOLOGY FOR CALCULATING PERIODS OF ABSENCE

REQUESTED BY EMN NCP LATVIA ON 25 MARCH 2026

COMPILATION PRODUCED ON 15 MAY 2026

Exported for: Unrestricted Dissemination

Responses from: EMN NCP Austria, EMN NCP Belgium, EMN NCP Bulgaria, EMN NCP Croatia, EMN NCP Cyprus, EMN NCP Czech Republic, EMN NCP Estonia, EMN NCP Finland, EMN NCP France, EMN NCP Germany, EMN NCP Greece, EMN NCP Ireland, EMN NCP Italy, EMN NCP Latvia, EMN NCP Lithuania, EMN NCP Luxembourg, EMN NCP Netherlands, EMN NCP Poland, EMN NCP Portugal, EMN NCP Serbia, EMN NCP Slovakia, EMN NCP Slovenia, EMN NCP Spain, EMN NCP Sweden **(24 in total)**

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs of Latvia reviewing applications for Permanent Residence Permits and EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS), a crucial component of the evaluation is the calculation of person's periods of absence within a specific timeframe.

In practice, this calculation is often complex and time-consuming due to the following factors:
Border crossing data may be incomplete or contradictory; Passport stamps are often illegible or missing; The need to identify both the total duration of absence and consecutive periods of absence; Specific calculation rules that must be applied in certain cases

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(e.g., periods of study). Currently, these calculations are largely performed manually, which increases the risk of error and the administrative burden. Considering the aforementioned, we are interested in the experience of other Member States regarding their methodology for calculating absences and the technical solutions employed, including potential automation or the use of AI tools.


WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

We would very much appreciate your responses by **15 April 2026**.


1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.
2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.
3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?
4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?

RESPONSES

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		Unrestricted Dissemination ?	
 EMN NCP Austria		Yes	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>In this context, in the absence of specific provisions regarding the evidence (documents or certificates) to be submitted for the verification of permitted absences pursuant to Art. 54 Settlement and Residence Act, a specific case-by-case review must always be conducted. Any evidence that proves an actual residence within the federal territory may be submitted (e.g., stamps in a passport, but also airline tickets, a lease agreement, proof of employment, bank statements, etc.).</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p>


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			<p>n/a --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>No. --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Belgium</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>In Belgium, there is an essential centralized tool, namely the National Register, which contains identification data, residence details, and administrative movements of persons residing on the territory. Each individual is assigned a unique national identification number, which follows them throughout their life.</p> <p>When a departure is recorded, the person is struck off the National Register, making it possible to objectively establish periods of absence. In the event of a subsequent return, the periods during which residence was interrupted can thus be reconstructed on the basis of the recorded data.</p> <p>Moreover, Belgian legislation provides for certain authorized absences, provided that the person concerned maintains their center of interests in Belgium and informs the administration in advance of their departure with the intention to return. In this context, an</p>


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			<p>Annex 18 may be issued. This document is also recorded in the National Register and makes it possible to track the movements of the person concerned while taking into account the maintenance of their connection with Belgium.</p> <p>By contrast, when a person is absent without informing the authorities and without a formal departure being recorded, the assessment is based on the factual elements available in the file. In such cases, traditional verification methods may be used, such as examining the entry and exit stamps in the passport, or any other relevant document or information that makes it possible to establish the period of absence and verify its consistency with the person's declarations.</p> <p>Hence, the Belgian Immigration Office does not use automated tools or artificial intelligence systems to determine these periods of absence. The analysis is based on the available administrative data, mainly drawn from the National Register, as well as an individual examination of each case.</p> <p>Source: Belgian Immigration Office.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>Source: Belgian Immigration Office.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p>
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			<p>Not Applicable.</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>The Belgian Immigration Office has plans to implement OCR in their database, but not for the calculation of the duration of long term residents but more for retrieving identity data or other data. For the moment it is at an analytical stage of development.</p> <p>Source: Belgian Immigration Office.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Bulgaria</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>In the Republic of Bulgaria, the right of prolonged residence is granted for a period of one year in most cases, with the exception of granting a right of residence for the purposes of employment for up to 5 years.</p> <p>For this reason, each year, entries and exits of third-country nationals will be checked when submitting an application for the right of prolonged residence Address checks are carried out and in-depth interviews are conducted. Airline tickets and certificates issued by the employer are accepted as evidence.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p>


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			<p>No</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>No</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Croatia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>The continuity of residence of a third-country national during the relevant five-year period preceding the date of submission of the application for long-term residence is determined by verifying data in official records. Such verification shall also be conducted by examining a copy of the third-country national’s travel document, including evidence of entry and exit stamps, as well as official records prepared by police officers. Where necessary, the assessment may further rely on statements provided by the applicant and any additional supporting documentation.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p>


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			<p>No.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A.</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>No.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Cyprus</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>An Excel file has been configured to automatically calculate the applicant’s periods of absence based on the recorded dates of arrival and departure. Please note that the recorded arrival and departure dates are limited to those occurring within the five-year period under examination.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No</p>

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			<p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>No</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Czech Republic</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>In practice, the calculation of absence periods is carried out manually by the case officer. The applicant's travel document (passport) is examined, and all identifiable periods of absence from the territory of the Czech Republic are recorded. These periods are subsequently aggregated in order to assess compliance with the relevant legal requirements.</p> <p>With the progressive implementation of the Entry/Exit System (EES), it is expected that passport stamps will no longer systematically reflect all movements. In such cases, only stamps from third countries may be available, without clear indication of the duration of absence. Where indications of travel outside the territory are identified (e.g. third-country entry stamps), the authority (OAMP) verifies the duration of absence through additional procedural steps. These may include, in particular, interviewing the applicant or requesting cooperation and supporting evidence from the applicant.</p>


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			<p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>No, there are currently no plans to implement Artificial Intelligence (AI) or Optical Character Recognition (OCR) solutions for this purpose.</p>
 <p>EMN NCP Estonia</p>		<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>The Police and Border Guard Board officials have used a method that involves compiling records of all border crossings and calculating the total length of time a person has been outside Estonia. In Estonia, according to the Aliens Act, the period of absence should not exceed six consecutive months and in total ten months within five last years.</p>

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		<p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>No, we don't have such development plans.</p>
<p>+ EMN NCP Finland</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>At the Finnish Immigration Service, a permit officer manually verifies and calculates periods of absence when processing applications for long-term resident's EU residence permit for third country nationals. The permit officer always checks the applicant's Schengen border crossings from the national border crossing register. In addition, the officer goes through the travels reported by the applicant on the application form, and may ask for further documentation and/or go through the applicant's passport stamps. For the calculations, the permit officer may use an Excel template provided by the Permanent Permits process.</p>

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			<p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>NO.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A.</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>NO.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP France</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>In France, the assessment of periods of absence in the context of processing applications for EU long-term resident status is not based on automated calculation, but on an overall assessment of the applicant's situation, combining legal thresholds with a case-by-case analysis of the documents submitted.</p> <p>The EU long-term resident card is issued to foreign nationals who are not citizens of an EU Member State and who meet several conditions, including the requirement to demonstrate at least five years of lawful and uninterrupted residence in France. This residence must have</p>

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been held under cover of residence permits such as a long-stay visa serving as a residence permit, a temporary residence permit, a multi-year residence permit, or a resident card, or, where applicable, while holding a European Blue Card.

There are, however, provisions that allow for some flexibility in the assessment of the residence requirement:

In principle, absences from French territory do not interrupt the continuity of residence provided they do not exceed six consecutive months or ten months in total over the five-year period.

Furthermore, the five-year period may be made up of several successive residence permits, provided that each of them confers entitlement to the EU long-term resident card.

A specific rule applies to holders of a European Blue Card: where they can demonstrate at least two years of residence in France under that permit and prior lawful residence in another EU Member State for at least three years under certain eligible permits, absences from outside the EU are permitted within broader limits, namely twelve consecutive months and eighteen months in total over five years.

Finally, for persons recognised as refugees or beneficiaries of subsidiary protection, the five-year period is counted from the date on which the asylum application was lodged.

Beyond these provisions, the period of residence can in principle no longer be considered uninterrupted.


In practice, the authorities carry out a cross-referencing of several elements:

Residence permits and renewal receipts; Evidence of habitual residence in France (professional activity, tax situation, housing, social security coverage); Supporting documents proving actual presence in France, such as payslips, invoices, bank statements or other administrative documents; Travel documents, in particular the pages of the passport bearing entry and exit stamps. The burden of proof rests primarily with the applicant, who must establish the


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			<p>continuity of their residence by any available means.</p> <p>There is no comprehensive database that would allow periods of absence to be automatically reconstructed. The authorities therefore rely on the consistency and continuity of the documents provided and may, where appropriate, request additional documents or explanations.</p> <p>The approach taken is not to systematically calculate every day of absence, but to verify that the legal thresholds have not been exceeded in light of all available evidence.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>No. There is currently no specific project aimed at implementing such solutions at national level for this type of processing. However, broader efforts to digitalise and modernise information systems in the field of migration management could in due course, contribute to</p>
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			improving the reliability and use of data relating to entries and exits.
 EMN NCP Germany	Yes		<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>Within the scope of their duties, a foreigner is obliged to cooperate and to provide the necessary information on all the conditions relevant to the decision on the issue of his residence permit as well as to provide the necessary proofs and certificates without delay. If the competent immigration authority sets them a time limit and the submission is not made within said limit, the information and evidence may be disregarded in the decision. Individual information, such as missing or illegible passport entries, can thus be compensated for in an overall view of the facts.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the BAMF has no information as to whether, or if so to what extent, the approximately 400 different local foreigners' authorities are already making use of one or both of these technical support solutions.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/a.</p>

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			<p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>The BAMF is not aware of concrete plans for the introduction of such specific technical solutions on a regional (Länder) and/or local level. However, the introduction of state-of-the-art technical applications, including those based on artificial intelligence, is generally a top priority in the entire area of migration management in Germany and the BAMF itself already makes use of it within its own tasks.</p>
 EMN NCP Greece	Yes		<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>The period of absence of the long-term resident from Greece is established by taking into account the entry and exit stamps in the passport: this check establishes the periods of absence of the long-term resident from EU. In order to check the periods of six-year absence, any other official element may be requested, such as residence permits in another MS, registration of arrivals and departures from the competent services of the Ministry of Protection of Citizen (competent Minister for the borders), etc.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p>

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			<p>-</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Ireland</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>Ireland is not bound by the EU Directive 2003/109/EC concerning the status of third-country national who are long-term residents. In 2023, the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 1956 was amended via the Courts and Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2023. One of the Amendments was to the calculation of continuous residency, which is required to meet the residence eligibility criteria for naturalisation (known as reckonable residency). The amendment clarified that when calculating the one-year period of continuous residence, an applicant can be outside the state for a period not exceeding (in aggregate) 70 days. Additional period(s), not exceeding 30 days in aggregate, can be spent outside the State in exceptional circumstances, which include family or personal circumstances, health requirements, employment requirements, voluntary humanitarian work, and other circumstances outside the control of the person*</p> <p>To apply for citizenship by naturalisation in Ireland, applicants must provide both identity and residency documents. They must be able to demonstrate that they have continuous residence in Ireland for one full-year prior to their citizenship application and for periods totalling 4 years in the 8 years before that. If applicants are married to or in a civil partnership with Irish</p>

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citizens for three years or more, they must have lived continuously in Ireland for 3 out of 5 years before their citizenship applications, including one full- year of continuous residence immediately prior to their application**

The requirements of Citizenship documents in the Irish scorecard system can be checked here:***

Proof of Identity documents, applicants must submit identity documents with a predetermined point value until they reach a total score of 150 point. Application only need to prove their identity one time and they don't need to prove it for every year. Documents include passport, Irish Residence Permit, home country National Identity documents etc.

Applicants can also use their Irish Residence Permit/Stamp info on the Irish Immigration Service Delivery's online link to calculate whether they have built up enough reckonable residence in Ireland.*****

Proof of Residency are made up of Type A documents, worth 100 points and Type B documents worth 50 points. Applicants can submit one Type A and one Type B document for each year of residency claimed. Whatever combination of documents are submitted must add up to a total score of 150 points for each year of residency claimed.

Type A documents include: Employment Detailed summary, Department of Social Protection Annual Contribution, bank statements.



Type B documents include: credit card statement, rent agreement, annual mortgage statement, phone bill, utility bill, medical practitioner employment history.

If applicants have been outside the jurisdiction longer than 6 months, they will need police clearance from the country they were in.


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			<p>* https://emn.ie/legislation/council-directive-2003-109-ec-of-25-november-2003-concerning-the-status-of-third-country-nationals-who-are-long-term-residents/ https://emn.ie/legislation/courts-and-civil-law-miscellaneous-provisions-act-2023/</p> <p>** https://www.irishimmigration.ie/how-to-become-a-citizen/become-an-irish-citizen-by-naturalisation/</p> <p>*** https://www.irishimmigration.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Citizenship-Guidance-Document-April-2024.pdf</p> <p>**** https://www.irishimmigration.ie/how-to-become-a-citizen/become-an-irish-citizen-by-naturalisation/proofs-of-identity-and-residence/</p> <p>*****https://www.irishimmigration.ie/naturalisation-residency-calculator</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>No.</p>
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 EMN NCP Italy	Yes	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>Periods of absence are calculated by examining the entry and exit stamps in passports.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p>
 EMN NCP Latvia	Yes	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>By verifying information in the Information Systems (IS) and considering the individual's reason for residence, it is verified whether the person meets the requirement for legal, continuous residence over the last five years. A check of the border crossing IS is performed, as well as a verification of the border crossing marks in the travel document, to ensure that the permitted period of absence has not been exceeded. If necessary, additional explanations</p>

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		<p>and documents are requested.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/a</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>Yes, work is continuing on the development of a pilot project that would reduce the processing time of the absence calculation process described in the answer to Q1.</p>
 EMN NCP Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>Absence periods are calculated using data from the State Border Guard Service information system (VSATIS) as well as passport stamps over the last 12 months. If questions arise or additional information is needed (since both VSATIS data and passport stamps only reflect crossings of external borders), applicants are asked to provide explanations or supplementary</p>

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			<p>information. Additionally, passport pages are scanned during each visit by a foreigner to the Migration Department, and the information obtained/available can</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>Yes, such plans exist, however, various possible options are still only being considered at this stage.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Luxembourg</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>As Luxembourg does not have external borders, with the exception of the airport, the stamping of the passport has never been a determining element for calculating the 5 years of continuous residence required to apply for the long-term resident status. This period is</p>


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			<p>calculated from the date on which the first residence permit is issued. When submitting an application for long-term residence, the applicant must provide the following supporting documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a full copy of the valid passport;• proof of stable, regular and sufficient financial resources (e.g. employment contract, tax return) for the 5 years preceding the application, without having benefited from the social welfare system (REVIS). These resources are assessed against the social minimum wage for unskilled workers;• proof of suitable housing (e.g. rental agreement, property deed) ;• a recent certificate of affiliation issued by the Joint Social Security Centre (CCSS)(social security registration certificate) for the past 5 years;• a health insurance certificate for the applicant and their family members (certificate of co-insurance);• a recent extract of their Luxembourg criminal record;• any document proving the applicant's integration in the Luxembourg society (e.g.: certificate of language courses, club member card, testimonial evidence);• proof of payment of a fee of EUR 80 for issuing the long-term residence permit. <p>In Luxembourg any legally residing third country national who leaves the county for more than six months must surrender their residence permit. However, absences of less than six consecutive months do not interrupt the calculation of the five-year residence period. Under Article 80(5) of the amended law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration (Immigration Law), longer absences exceeding six consecutive months may, upon request and in duly justified temporary circumstances (such as pregnancy and childbirth, serious illness, studies or vocational training, or work-related postings including intra-corporate transfers), be extended up to a maximum of twelve consecutive months.</p> <p>The key requirement for obtaining long-term resident status is set out in Article 81(1)(1) of the Immigration Law. Applicants must demonstrate that they have had stable and regular</p>
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			<p>resources sufficient to support themselves and their dependent family members without recourse to social assistance, in accordance with the conditions laid down by Grand-Ducal regulation.</p> <p>More specifically, Article 8(1) of the amended Grand-Ducal Regulation of 5 September 2008 establishing the criteria of resources and accommodation foreseen in the Immigration Law provides that applicants must show that, over the five years preceding the application, their resources were at least equivalent to the monthly social minimum wage for an unskilled worker. As of 1 January 2026, this amount is EUR 2,703.74 per month.</p> <p>Article 80(1) of the Immigration Law states that third-country nationals who have legally resided in Luxembourg for at least five years of uninterrupted residence immediately prior to the application may apply for long-term resident status, provided that the previous purposes of the stay are considered under Article 80(2).</p> <p>According to Article 80(4), periods of absence do not interrupt this five-year period provided they are shorter than six consecutive months and do not exceed a total of ten months over the five-year period.</p> <p>In exceptional circumstances, deviating from Article 80(4), a continuous period of absence of up to 12 months may be permitted within the overall five-year period, according to Article 80(5).</p> <p>For EU Blue Card holders, more flexible rules apply: absences do not interrupt the qualifying period if they do not exceed twelve consecutive months and remain within a total of eighteen months over the entire five-year period.</p>
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		<p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>NO.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A.</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>NO.</p>
 EMN NCP Netherlands	Yes	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>In the Netherlands, the calculation of the absence periods in the context of applications for EU Long-term Resident Status is based on an individual assessment, taking into account all relevant facts and circumstances, including the third country national's intention.</p> <p>To be eligible for EU-Long Term Resident Status, an individual must have resided legally in the Netherlands for at least 5 consecutive years. During these 5 years, the individual must not have spent six or more consecutive months, nor a total of ten or more months, outside the Netherlands.</p>


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			<p>When assessing a stay outside the Netherlands, the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (Immigratie- en Naturalisatiedienst, IND) uses various indicators, such as the deregistration from the Personal Records Database (Basisregistratie Personen, BRP) due to departure abroad and entry and exit stamps in the passport, but such stamps do not usually provide a complete picture on its own. Therefore, when assessing the period of absence, all available data is considered, as well as the applicant's intention.[1]</p> <p>^ Information provision by a specialist of the subject matter</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>NO.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A.</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>NO. There are no plans to implement such solutions.</p>
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	EMN NCP Poland	Yes	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>The arrangements are made on the basis of border crossings, passport stamps, previous visas/resident permits, and documents presented by foreigners (employment contracts, declarations and information from the Social Insurance Institution (ZUS), tax information, etc.).</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>Not applicable</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>There are no plans to implement such solutions in the near future.</p>
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 EMN NCP Portugal	Yes	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>1 - For the purposes of calculating residency time, long-term resident status is granted to a third-country national who has legal and uninterrupted residence in national territory for the five years immediately preceding the submission of the application or, if the applicant is a beneficiary of international protection, from the date of submission of the application that resulted in the granting of international protection (see point a) of Article 126 of Law No. 23/2007, of 04/07, as amended);</p> <p>2 - The following are not eligible for long-term resident status: (see Article 125(2) of Law No. 23/2007 of 04/07, as amended);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Those who hold a residence permit for study, unpaid professional internship or volunteering; ii) Those authorized to reside in national territory under temporary protection or who have applied for a residence permit for this reason and are awaiting a decision on their status; iii) Those who remain in Portugal exclusively for temporary reasons, such as seasonal workers, workers posted by a service provider for the purpose of providing cross-border services, or cross-border service providers; iv) Those who benefit from legal status under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, adopted on April 18, 1961, or the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, adopted on April 24, 1963. <p>3 - For the purposes of calculating the period of legal and uninterrupted residence referred to in point 1 above, the periods in which nationals of third countries: (cf. paragraph 2 of Article 126 of Law No. 23/2007, of 04/07, as amended);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Remain in Portugal exclusively for temporary reasons, such as seasonal workers, workers posted by a service provider for the purpose of providing cross-border services, or cross-border service providers; ii) Benefit from legal status under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, adopted on April 18, 1961, or the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, adopted on April 24, 1963,
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			<p>are not taken into account.</p> <p>4 - In cases where a third-country national has held a residence permit for study, unpaid professional training or volunteering, and has obtained a residence permit that allows them to benefit from long-term resident status, the period during which they held a residence permit for study, unpaid professional training or volunteering purposes is taken into account, at half the rate, for the calculation of the period referred to in point 1. (cf. paragraph 3 of article 126 of Law no. 23/2007, of 04/07, as amended);</p> <p>5 - Periods of absence from the national territory do not interrupt the period of legal and uninterrupted residence in the national territory during the five years referred to in point 1 and are included in the calculation thereof, provided that they are less than 6 consecutive months and do not exceed, in total, 10 months within the period referred to in point 1. (cf. paragraph 4 of article 126 of Law no. 23/2007, of 04/07, as currently worded);</p> <p>6 - However, periods of absence due to secondment for work reasons, namely within the framework of cross-border service provision, are taken into account in the calculation of the period referred to in point 1. (cf. paragraph 5 of article 126 of Law no. 23/2007, of 04/07, as amended);</p> <p>7 - Periods of uninterrupted stay in national territory under a work visa or residence permit, issued under previous legislation, are relevant for calculating the period stipulated in item 1 above. (cf. paragraph 7 of article 126 of Law no. 23/2007, of 04/07, as amended).</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>NO.</p>
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			<p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>Not Applicable</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>Not Applicable</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Serbia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>In accordance with Article 68, paragraph 2 of the Law on Foreigners (“Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia”, Nos. 24/2018, 31/2019 and 62/2023), permanent residence shall be granted to a foreign national who meets the general conditions prescribed by this law and who has resided continuously in the Republic of Serbia for three years on the basis of an approved temporary residence. Continuous residence shall be considered as the effective residence of a foreign national in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, with the possibility of multiple absences from the Republic of Serbia totaling up to ten months, or a single absence of up to six months, within a period of three years.</p> <p>In accordance with the aforementioned legal provisions, in the procedure of deciding on a submitted application for permanent residence, the competent authority assesses whether the conditions for granting permanent residence have been fulfilled, and, among other things, determines whether the foreign national meets the requirements in terms of effective residence in the territory of the Republic of Serbia during the last three years under approved</p>


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			<p>temporary residence, i.e., whether the foreign national has stayed outside the territory of the Republic of Serbia longer than the legally prescribed period.</p> <p>Fulfilment of this condition is primarily determined based on inspection of electronic databases, i.e., records maintained by the Ministry of the Interior, in such a way that, through an internal software application of the Ministry of the Interior, by cross-checking and searching data in the available records (personal data of the applicant, passport numbers, and data on recorded border checks concerning the applicant), the time period (number of days) during which the foreign national stayed outside the territory of the Republic of Serbia is automatically calculated. If it is observed that a recorded border check is missing (e.g., due to the application of minimal border control), the acting police inspector shall establish other relevant facts regarding absence or presence, including inspection of the applicant's travel document.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p>
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			<p>We are currently only exploring possible options and do not have any concrete plans at this time.</p>
	EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of the third-country national to submit any credible document(s) from the Member State(s). However, such a document must meet the conditions under Article 126 (6) of the Act on the Residence of Foreigners, i.e. documents required in proceedings under this Act and issued by the authorities of foreign states must be accompanied by a higher authentication clause, unless an international treaty or a special regulation provides otherwise. The Ministry of the Interior may, in justified cases, waive the requirement for a higher verification of the document of good repute.</p> <p>All documents submitted in the residence permit procedure are assessed by the administrative authority, which evaluates whether the submitted documents are sufficient and credibly prove of the legal and continuous residence of the third-country national. According to Article 52 (4) (b) of the Act on the Residence of Foreigners, the period of continuous residence does not include a maximum of 6 consecutive months and a maximum of 10 months, during which the third-country national resided outside the territory of the Slovak Republic after the notification to the police department.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p>


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			<p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>NA</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>NA</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Slovenia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>The Republic of Slovenia calculates foreigners' absence periods manually. Under the Foreigners Act, the requirement of five years of uninterrupted legal residence is considered fulfilled even if the foreigner was in this period absent from the Republic of Slovenia and did not hold a temporary residence permit (or a certificate confirming the submission of an application for the extension or issuance of a further temporary residence permit), provided that each absence was shorter than six consecutive months and that the absences do not exceed ten months in total. For this, Slovene officials rely primarily on data from the official register of residence permits maintained under the Foreigners Act. If necessary, in cases where there is suspicion of greater absences, additional explanations and documents are requested (official records on health insurance, bank account transactions in Republic of Slovenia, employment, education, as well as through witness testimony or applicant's personal statement, etc).</p>

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			<p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>No.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Spain</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>The calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status it is carried out manually through the analysis of the entry and exit records contained in the passport. Once the European Entry-Exit system comes into force, this method will be used.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p>

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			<p>No.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A.</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>Measures are being studied.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Sweden</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. How does your Member State performs the calculation of absence periods when processing applications for EU Long-term Resident Status (LTRS)? Please explain.</p> <p>The method in terms of calculating the absence period when processing long-term resident applications is based on indications and trust. It is the applicants themselves who fill in the form regarding absence periods. All information the applicant submits are made on word of honour. The Migration Agency checks for indications regarding this information. Beside checking the population registration the Migration Agency also check in their own system for information regarding any border crossings. As standard procedure the Migration Agency request information regarding the latest annual income details. applicant. If the Migration Agency finds possible gaps the applicant is request to submit a written report regarding all travels for the last five years. The Migration Agency may also request income details for the last two years. During the assessment the case officers are observant to any indications suggesting an applicant been</p>

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			<p>absent, e.g. it is common that the applicant's profession entails a lot of business travels, in these cases more information may be requested.</p> <p>2. Do you utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) or OCR (Optical Character Recognition) solutions to calculate entry/exit data? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>3. If your answer is YES to Q2, what is the functional scope of these solutions (e.g., data extraction only, automated calculation, etc.)?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If your answer is NO to Q2, do you have plans to implement such solutions? YES/NO. If you answer YES; at what stage of development is this process?</p> <p>No.</p>
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