



European Migration Network (EMN)

Common Template EMN Focussed Study 2014

Final Version 5th March 2014

Good Practices in the return and reintegration of irregular migrants: Member States' entry bans policy & use of readmission agreements between Member States and third countries

1 STRUCTURE OF COMMON TEMPLATE

Top-line 'factsheet'/Executive summary

National contribution (one page only)

Overview of the National Contribution – introducing the study and drawing out key facts and figures from across all sections of the Focussed Study, with a particular emphasis on elements that will be of relevance to (national) policymakers.

Section 3 Entry bans (maximum 10 pages)

This section reviews the national legal framework for imposing entry bans, in particular the grounds for issuing an entry ban (including criteria/indicators for assessing whether the grounds apply in individual cases), the categories of third-country national who can be issued such a ban, and the territorial scope of the entry ban. It also provides an overview of the authorities responsible for the imposition and decision-making of entry bans. The practical implementation of entry bans is explored by reviewing the extent to which Member States use a graduated approach, where entry bans are withdrawn or suspended depending on individual circumstances and the category of third-country national. Cooperation between Member States when implementing entry bans is addressed by reviewing whether Member States enter an alert into the SIS following imposition of an entry ban and by reviewing the information exchange/consultation processes including existing information sharing mechanisms between Member States. The section finally also includes questions about the perceived or actual effectiveness of entry bans, the main challenges associated with entry bans and any evidence of good practice.

SECTION 3.1 NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK ON ENTRY BANS: GROUNDS FOR IMPOSITION OF ENTRY BANS AND CATEGORIES OF THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL SUBJECT TO ENTRY BANS

Q1. In your Member State, which scenario applies to the imposition of entry bans?

- a) Entry bans are automatically imposed in case the return obligation has not been complied with OR no period of voluntary departure has been granted

(Yes/No)

b) Entry-bans are automatically imposed on all return decisions other than under a)

(Yes/No)

c) Entry bans are issued on a case by case basis on all return decisions other than a)

(Yes / No)

Q2a. What are according to national legislation in your Member State the grounds for imposing entry bans? Please answer this question by indicating whether the grounds defined in national law include the following listed in the table 3.1 below. In the final column, please add more detailed information on the criteria/indicators used to decide whether particular grounds apply in individual cases:

Table 3.1: Grounds for imposing entry bans

Grounds for imposing entry bans	Yes/No	Please provide information on the criteria/indicators used to decide whether particular grounds apply in individual cases
Risk of absconding ¹		<i>Example: The risk of absconding may be measured in your (Member) State on the basis of an attempt to escape from detention, a statement about the person's reluctance to return to their home country, lack of a valid passport, lack of address or residence, previous declaration of false identity, previous violation of voluntary departure or entry ban, etc.</i>
The third-country national concerned poses a risk to public policy, public security or national security ² .		<i>Examples of indicators may include the following: A third-country national who is convicted of an offence carrying a penalty involving deprivation of liberty of at least one year; a third-country national in respect of whom there are serious grounds to believe that he/she committed serious criminal offences or in respect of whom there is clear evidence of the intention to commit such offences; the third-country national has been subject to measures involving deportation, refusal of entry or removal, prohibition of residence, etc³.</i>
The application for legal stay was dismissed as manifestly unfounded or fraudulent ⁴		

¹ As stipulated in the Return Directive Article 11 (1) (a) in combination with Article 7(4).

² As stipulated in the Return Directive Article 11 (1) (a) in combination with Article 7(4).

³ Based on Article 96 of the Schengen Implementing Agreement (SIA).

⁴ As stipulated in the Return Directive in Article 11(1)(a) in combination with Article 7(4).

The obligation to return has not been complied with ⁵		
Other (e.g. please indicate and add rows as appropriate)		

Q2b. What are the national grounds based upon which your Member State can decide **not** to issue an entry ban? Please answer this question by indicating whether the grounds defined in national law include the following listed in the table 3.2 below. In the final column, please add more detailed information on the criteria/indicators used to decide whether particular grounds apply in individual cases:

Table 3.2: Grounds for not imposing entry bans

Grounds for not imposing entry bans	Yes/No	Please provide information on the criteria/indicators used to decide whether particular grounds apply in individual cases
Humanitarian reasons		
Right to family life (Article 8 ECHR)		
Health reasons		

Q3. Please provide a short overview of the categories of third-country national that can be issued an entry ban by completing the table 3.3 below:

Table 3.3: Categories of third-country national who can be issued an entry ban

Categories of third-country national who can be issued an entry ban⁶	Who comply voluntarily with return decision (Y/N)	Who do not cooperate with return decision (Y/N)
Third-country nationals staying illegally on the territory of a Member State (including residence/visa over-stayers, rejected applicants for international protection, third-country nationals who entered the territory illegally)		
Third-country nationals who are subject to a refusal of entry in accordance with Article 13 of the Schengen Borders Code		
Third-country nationals who are apprehended or intercepted by the competent authorities in		

⁵ As stipulated in the Return Directive Article 11(1)(b).

⁶ Based on Article 2 Return Directive

connection with the irregular crossing by land, sea or air of the external border of a Member State and who have not subsequently obtained an authorisation or a right to stay in that Member State		
Third-country nationals who are subject to return as a criminal law sanction or as a consequence of a criminal law sanction		
Other (please indicate and add rows as appropriate)		

Q4. Specify the territorial scope of entry bans that are imposed by your Member State, i.e. do they apply to the entire EU territory or do they only cover the national territory of the Member State? If both types of entry bans can be imposed, please indicate that this is the case.

Q5. Which institution(s) in your Member State decides whether or not to issue an entry ban on third-country nationals who are the subject of a return decision? Please specify whether this concerns for example the police, border police, immigration service, asylum agency etc.

SECTION 3.2 PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF ENTRY BANS

Q6. Who informs third-country nationals of the imposition of the entry ban and what procedure is used to convey this information? Please specify

Q7. Do third-country nationals who have been imposed an entry ban have the possibility to appeal the decision? (Yes/No) Specify whether this is laid down in national law (make reference to the national legislation and the provision) and specify the concerned court of appeal

Q8. Please indicate whether entry bans can be withdrawn or suspended in your Member State, specifying the categories of third country national who may be withdrawn/suspended from an entry ban, and explain the circumstances or reasons for this by filling out the table 3.4 below:

Table 3.4: withdrawal and suspension of entry bans

Categories of third-country national who can be exempted from an entry ban	Entry ban can be withdrawn or suspended (Y/N)	If yes, please provide information on the criteria/indicators used
Third-country nationals who can demonstrate that they have left the territory of the member State in full compliance with a return decision		

Victims of trafficking in human beings who have been granted a residence permit pursuant to Council Directive 2004/81/EC (provided they do not represent a threat to public policy, public security or national security)		
Minors		
Unaccompanied Minors		
Disabled people		
Elderly people		
Pregnant women		
Single parents with minor children		
Persons with serious illness		
Persons with mental disorders		
Persons who have been subjected to torture, rape, or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence (e.g. victims of female genital mutilation)		
Other humanitarian reasons, (please indicate and add rows as appropriate)		
Other individual cases or certain categories of cases for other reasons (please indicate and add rows as appropriate)		

Q9. Is the institution responsible for the imposition of the entry ban the same as the authority that is competent to decide on withdrawal/suspension? Yes/ No. If not, or in case other actors are involved, please specify which ones and comment on the cooperation between the two actors.

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SECTION 3.3 COOPERATION BETWEEN MEMBER STATES

Q10. Does your Member State enter an alert into the SIS when an entry ban has been imposed on a third-country national? (e.g. see Article 24 (3) of Regulation No 1987/2006 – SIS)? (Yes/No)

Please specify whether;

- a) Alerts are entered into the SIS as standard practice
- b) Alerts are entered into the SIS on a regular basis
- c) Alerts are entered into the SIS on a case-by-case basis

Q11a. Does your Member State share information on the use of entry bans with other Member States? (Yes/No)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) Your Member State exchanges information as a standard practice | Yes / No |
| b) Your Member State exchanges information on a regular basis | Yes / No |
| c) Your Member State exchanges information on a case-by-case basis | Yes / No |

Q11b. What type of information is shared with other Member States? Please indicate whether any or all of the following types of information are shared:

- a) Number of entry bans imposed (Yes/No)
- b) Identity of the individuals who have been imposed an entry bans (Yes/No)
- c) Reasons for imposing the entry bans (Yes/No)
- d) Decision to withdraw an entry ban and reasons for this (Yes/No)
- e) Decision to suspend an entry ban and reasons for this (Yes/No)
- f) Any other information (please specify)

Q11c. How is information shared with other Member States? Please provide an overview of the existing mechanisms to share information (e.g. via the Schengen Information System, bilateral exchange of information either face-to-face, over the telephone, via e-mail, other?)

Q12a. Article 11 (4) stipulates that “where a Member State is considering issuing a residence permit or other authorisation offering a right to stay to a third-country national who is the subject of an entry ban issued by another Member State, it shall first consult the Member State having issued the entry ban and shall take account of its interests in accordance with Article 25 of the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement”. Please describe the processes how these consultations take place; indicate which authorities are involved as well as the method of consultation.

Q12b. Has your Member State ever issued a residence permit or any other authorisation offering a right to stay to a third-country national who is the subject of an entry ban imposed by another Member State? (Yes/No); If yes, please indicate the number of residence permits issued to third-country nationals in these circumstances.

Q12c. In case your Member State has issued a residence permit or any other authorisation offering a right to stay to a third-country national who is the subject of an entry ban imposed by another Member State, please specify the circumstances based on which such decisions were taken.

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SECTION 3.4 EFFECTIVENESS OF ENTRY BANS

Q13. Has your Member State conducted any evaluations of the effectiveness of entry bans? (Yes/No) If yes, please provide any results pertaining to the issues listed in the table 3.5 below. The full bibliographical references of the evaluations can be included in an Annex to the national report.

3.5: Entry ban's effectiveness

Aspects of the effectiveness of entry bans	Explored in national evaluations (Y/N)	Main findings
Contribute to preventing re-entry		
Contribute to ensuring compliance with voluntary return ⁷		
Cost-effectiveness of entry bans		
Other aspects of effectiveness (please specify)		

Q14. The following indicators have been developed in order to measure the effectiveness of entry bans as a means for enhancing the ability of (Member) States to carry out sustainable returns, or provide proxy measures of their effectiveness. If your Member State collects any statistics that would permit the population of these indicators, please indicate this is the case and provide the statistics for the last 5 years. The statistics should be provided as a total number from January 1st until December 31st of each year.

Table 3.6: National statistics on entry bans

Indicators (refer to 12 month period, if possible data should be disaggregated by category of third-country national)	Y/N	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013

⁷ i.e. to what extent does the graduated approach (withdrawal or suspension of the entry ban) contribute to encouraging third-country nationals to return voluntarily?

Number of entry bans imposed						
Number of decisions to withdraw an entry ban						
Number of decisions to suspend an entry ban						
Number of persons who are the subject of an entry ban who have been re-apprehended inside the territory (not at the border)						
Proportion of persons issued an entry ban who have returned voluntarily – out of the total number of persons that were issued an entry ban						
Proportion of persons who were not issued an entry ban who have returned voluntarily – out of the total number of persons that were imposed a return decision						

Q15. Please indicate whether your Member State has encountered any of the following challenges in the implementation of entry bans and briefly explain how they affect the ability of entry bans to contribute to effective returns.

Table 3.7: Practical challenges for the implementation of entry bans

Challenges associated with entry bans	Y/N	Reasons
It is difficult to ensure compliance with entry bans on the part of the third-country national concerned		
It is difficult to monitor compliance with entry bans		

It is difficult to secure the cooperation of other MS in the implementation of entry bans ⁸		
It is difficult to secure the cooperation of the country of origin in the implementation of entry bans		
Other challenges (please specify and add rows as necessary)		

Q16. Please describe any examples of good practice in your (Member) State's implementation of entry bans, identifying as far as possible the reasons why the practice in question is considered successful. *In the synthesis report, these good practices will be compared and those which appear most transferrable to other Member States will be highlighted.*

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Section 4. Readmission agreements⁹ (maximum 10 pages)

This section investigates the practical application of EU and separate bi-lateral readmission agreements of EU Member States with third countries. In particular, it attempts to ascertain how frequently EU and bi-lateral readmission agreements are used, any practical challenges Member States have experienced when carrying out return on the basis of readmission agreements and to what extent readmission agreements have been effective in ensuring the removal of irregular third-country nationals.

SECTION 4.1 INSTITUTIONAL SET-UP

Q17. Which authority is responsible for making applications for readmission to third countries in individual cases of forced and or voluntary return?

SECTION 4.2 EU READMISSION AGREEMENTS

Q18. Please provide any available statistics on the number of readmission applications that your Member State has submitted on the basis of **EU readmission agreements**. In Table 4.1 you are required to provide statistics on the total number of all readmission applications made based on EURAs. In table 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 you are required to only provide statistics for the three third countries to which most readmission applications are made. These statistics are to be provided separately for each third country by filling out table 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 below. Please distinguish, if possible, between own nationals and third-country nationals or stateless persons.

Table 4.1: National Statistics on the total number of readmission applications under EU Readmission Agreements

	Total number of readmission applications made based on EURAs	How many have concerned voluntary return?
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⁸ This could for example relate to problems in the use of the Schengen Information System, and/or the lack of a common system.

⁹ Please note that this Section only concerns readmission agreements with third countries and that any other readmission agreements with EEA countries are outside the scope.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total numbers								
Own nationals								
Third-country nationals (including stateless persons)								

Table 4.2: National Statistics on the number of readmission applications made under EU Readmission Agreement to third country 1 (specify the concerned third country)

	Number of readmission applications made to third country 1 based on EURAs				How many have concerned voluntary return?			
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total numbers								
Own nationals								
Third-country nationals (including stateless persons)								

Table 4.3: National Statistics on the number of readmission applications made under EU Readmission Agreement to third country 2 (specify the concerned third country)

	Number of readmission applications made to third country 2 based on EURAs				How many have concerned voluntary return?			
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total numbers								
Own nationals								
Third-country nationals (including stateless persons)								

Table 4.4: National Statistics on the number of returns under EU Readmission Agreement to third country 3 (specify the concerned third country)

	Number of readmission applications made to third country 3 based on EURAs				How many have concerned voluntary return?			
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total numbers								
Own nationals								
Third-country nationals (including stateless persons)								

Q19. Has your (Member) State experienced any practical obstacles when implementing EU Readmission Agreements? Please answer this question by filling in the table below. Please specify in your answer whether problems are of a general nature and/or only experienced in relation to certain third countries. In case particular problems are experienced only in relation to specific third countries, please indicate which third countries these are (the latter is optional).

Table 4.4 Practical obstacles for the implementation of EU Readmission Agreements

Practical obstacles associated with EU readmission agreements	Yes/No	If yes, please specify whether only in relation to a specific third country, or more of general nature. Also illustrate the obstacle with an example in this column
Countries of origin do not cooperate in general		
Countries do not respect the deadlines		
Countries do not cooperate in relation to readmission applications of third-country nationals (as opposed to own nationals)		
Countries do not cooperate in relation to readmission applications of stateless persons (as opposed to own nationals)		
Countries do not issue travel document to enable readmission/return		
Gaps in own (Member) State's administrative capacity to implement readmission agreement		
Other obstacles (please add columns as necessary)		

Q20. Has your (Member) State conducted any evaluations of the effectiveness of EU and/or its bilateral readmission agreements?

(Yes/No) If yes, what issues have the evaluations covered? Please provide any results pertaining to:

Table 4.5 Findings of the evaluations of EU Readmission Agreements carried out by your MS (if applicable)

Aspects of effectiveness	Covered in national evaluations (Y/N)	Main findings
Recognition rates of readmission applications		
Other (please indicate and add rows as necessary)		

Q21. The following indicators have been developed in order to provide (proxy) measures of the effectiveness of EU and bilateral readmission agreements. If your Member State collects any statistics that would permit the population of these indicators, please indicate this is the case and provide the statistics for the last 5 years

Table 4.6: Indicators measuring the effectiveness of EU Readmission Agreements

Indicators (refer to 12 month period, if possible data should be disaggregated by own nationals and third country nationals, including stateless persons)	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of readmission applications sent					
Number of readmission applications that received a positive reply					
Number of requests for travel documents in the context of a readmission application					
Number of travel documents issued by third country after the positive reply					
Number of persons who were effectively returned					

Q22. Please provide an assessment of the added value of the EU Readmission Agreements in facilitating the effective returns in comparison with the period before the EU Readmission Agreements were concluded.

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SECTION 4.3 SEPARATE BILATERAL READMISSION AGREEMENTS

Q23. Does your Member State have any separate bilateral readmission agreements in place with third countries? (Yes/No) If yes, please indicate the number of agreements, the third countries concerned, the date of the agreement, and the date of its entry into force

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Q24. Please provide any available statistics on the number of readmission applications that your Member State has submitted on the basis of separate **bilateral readmission agreements**. Please only provide such statistics for the three third countries to which most readmission applications are made. The statistics are to be provided separately for each third country by filling out tables 4.7, 4.8, and 4.9. Please distinguish, if possible, between own nationals and third-country nationals or stateless persons. If there have been any instances of voluntary return under the separate bilateral readmission agreements, please indicate this in the last column of the tables:

Table 4.7: National Statistics on the number of readmission applications made under separate bilateral readmission agreements to third country 1 (specify the country concerned).

	Number of readmission applications made to third country 1 based on separate bilateral readmission agreements				How many have concerned voluntary return?			
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total numbers								
Own nationals								
Third-country nationals (including stateless persons)								

Table 4.8: National Statistics on the number of readmission applications made under separate bilateral readmission agreements to third country 2 (specify the country concerned).

National Statistics on the number of readmission applications made under separate bilateral readmission agreements to third country 2 (specify the country concerned).	Number of readmission applications made to third country 2 based on separate bilateral readmission agreements				How many have concerned voluntary return?			
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total numbers								
Own nationals								
Third-country nationals (including stateless persons)								

Table 4.9: National Statistics on the number of readmission applications made under separate bilateral readmission agreements to third country 3 (specify the country concerned).

National Statistics on the number of readmission applications made under separate bilateral readmission agreements to third country 3 (specify the country concerned).	Number of readmission applications made to third country 3 based on separate bilateral readmission agreements				How many have concerned voluntary return?			
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013

Total numbers								
Own nationals								
Third-country nationals (including stateless persons)								

Q25. Please indicate the most common problems encountered in the implementation of separate bilateral readmission agreements by filling in the table 4.10 below. Please indicate whether problems are of general nature or whether these are only experienced in relation to specific third countries. In case particular problems are experienced only in relation to specific third countries, please indicate which third countries these are (the latter is optional).

Table 4.10: Practical obstacles experienced under separate bilateral readmission agreements

Practical obstacles associated with separate bilateral readmission agreements	Yes/No	If yes, please specify whether only in relation to a specific third country, or more of general nature. Also illustrate the obstacle with an example in this column
Countries of origin do not cooperate in general		
Countries do not respect the deadlines		
Countries do not cooperate in relation to readmission applications of third-country nationals (as opposed to own nationals)		
Countries do not cooperate in relation to readmission applications of stateless persons (as opposed to own nationals)		
Countries do not issue travel document to enable readmission/return		
Gaps in own (Member) State's administrative capacity to implement readmission agreement		
Other obstacles (please add columns as necessary)		

Q26. Do any of the separate bilateral readmission agreements signed by your (Member) State include an article encouraging both Parties to promote the use of voluntary return? If yes, please indicate with which countries these agreements have been signed. If no, please confirm whether the agreements focus exclusively on readmission cases involving forced returns.

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Q27. Does your Member State prefer to use separate bilateral readmission agreements instead of EU Readmission agreements with particular third countries? (Yes/No) If yes, please indicate with which third countries and the reasons for this.

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Q28. Has your (Member) State conducted any evaluations of the effectiveness of separate bi-lateral readmission agreements?

(Yes/No) If yes, what issues have the evaluations covered? Please provide any results pertaining to:

Table 4.11: Evaluations on separate bilateral readmission agreements

Aspects of effectiveness	Covered in national evaluations (Y/N)	Main findings
Recognition rates of readmission applications		
Other (please indicate and add rows as necessary)		

Q29. The following indicators have been developed in order to provide (proxy) measures of the effectiveness of separate bilateral readmission agreements. Please provide the statistics for the three third countries to which most readmission applications are made on the basis of such agreements – these should be provided in a separate table for each of the third countries concerned (third country 1 in table 4.12; third country 2 in table 4.13; and third country 3 in table 4.14). If your Member State collects any statistics that would permit the population of these indicators, please indicate this is the case and provide the statistics for the last 5 years.

Table 4.12: Indicators measuring the effectiveness of separate bilateral readmission agreement with third country 1 (specify the country concerned)

Indicators (Refer to 12 month period for readmission applications made to third country 1. If possible data should be disaggregated by own nationals and third country nationals, including stateless persons)	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of readmission applications sent					
Number of readmission applications that received a positive reply					
Number of requests for travel documents in the context of a readmission application					

Number of travel documents issued by third country after the positive reply					
Number of persons who were effectively returned					

Table 4.13: Indicators measuring the effectiveness of separate bilateral readmission agreement with third country 2 (specify the country concerned)

Indicators (Refer to 12 month period for readmission applications made to third country 2. If possible data should be disaggregated by own nationals and third country nationals, including stateless persons)	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of readmission applications sent					
Number of readmission applications that received a positive reply					
Number of requests for travel documents in the context of a readmission application					
Number of travel documents issued by third country after the positive reply					
Number of persons who were effectively returned					

Table 4.14: Indicators measuring the effectiveness of separate bilateral readmission agreement with third country 3 (specify the country concerned)

Indicators (Refer to 12 month period for readmission applications made to third country 3. If possible data should be disaggregated by own nationals and third country nationals, including stateless persons)	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of readmission applications sent					

Number of readmission applications that received a positive reply					
Number of requests for travel documents in the context of a readmission application					
Number of travel documents issued by third country after the positive reply					
Number of persons who were effectively returned					

Q30. Please provide an assessment of the added value of the separate bilateral readmission agreements in facilitating effective returns in comparison with the period before the separate bilateral readmission agreements were concluded. Please only provide this assessment for the separate bilateral readmission agreements conducted with the three third countries to which most readmission applications are made.

Section 5. Entry bans and readmission agreements: understanding the synergies with reintegration assistance (maximum 3 pages)

In view of the important role that reintegration assistance can play in ensuring the sustainability of returns, this section examines the dependencies that might exist between entry bans and readmission agreements, on the one hand, and reintegration assistance, on the other hand; it also explores the extent to which decision-makers in charge of issuing entry bans and making readmission applications cooperate with the officials in charge of granting / administering reintegration assistance. The answers to these questions will be used in the Synthesis Report to determine whether greater cooperation between the relevant authorities would lead to better outcomes for sustainable return.

Q31. Do the authorities in charge of imposing an entry ban subsequently consult with and/or inform the authorities in the concerned third country to which the individual is to be returned? If yes, at which stage in the process of imposing an entry ban is the third country consulted/informed? And if yes, do third countries subsequently impose travel bans on third-country nationals who were imposed an entry ban?

Q32. Is it possible in your (Member) State for returnees who have been the subject of an entry ban to apply for re-integration assistance? (Yes/No) If yes, please indicate in which circumstances.

Q33. (If answered yes to question 32), are the competent authorities involved in making decisions about the use of entry bans and granting of re-integration assistance the same? Yes/No.

Q34. (If answered no to question 33), have any formal cooperation mechanisms been set up to facilitate coordination? (e.g. Protocols, contracts, conventions, working arrangements, etc.). Yes/No. If yes, please describe.

Q35. (If answered no to question 34), do the competent authorities consult with each other when making decisions? If yes, do these consultations take place on a regular basis as a standard practice, or are consultations only made on very few / exceptional occasions?

Q36. Does your (Member) State offer re-integration assistance to returnees who have been removed on the basis of a readmission agreement? Yes/No. If yes, please indicate in which circumstances.

Q37. (If answered yes to question 36), are the competent authorities involved in making readmission applications and granting re-integration assistance the same? Yes/No.

Q38. (If answered no to question 37), have any formal cooperation mechanisms been set up to facilitate coordination? (e.g. Protocols, contracts, conventions, working arrangements, etc.). Yes/No. If yes, please describe.

Q.39 (If answered no to question 38), do the competent authorities consult with each other when making decisions? If yes, do these consultations take place on a regular basis as a standard practice, or are consultations only made on very few / exceptional occasions?

Section 6. Statistics

Contextual statistics on number of returns, etc. may be added to this section (besides the specific statistics requested in the body of the report to populate the effectiveness indicators). The statistics working group will also be consulted about this possibility.

Section 7. Key findings/conclusions

The Synthesis Report will outline the main findings of the Study and present conclusions relevant for policymakers at national and EU level.

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