



## **EMN Ad-Hoc Query on AHQ on start-up policies for third-country nationals (part 2)**

Requested by Barbara ORLOFF on 12th June 2017

### **Economic Migration**

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, Norway (23 in total)

#### Disclaimer:

*The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.*


## **Background information:**

In recent years, many Member States, including Estonia, have introduced into their national legislation the possibility to apply for start-up visas/and or residence permits. The EMN Annual Conference held in the framework of the Estonian Presidency of the Council of the EU focuses on talent migration and one of the major topics addressed is the mobility of startup founders and employees. This AHQ will serve as an input to the conference, but also to an inform that will be written later in the year. Please note that the AHQ is divided into two parts due to the amount of information asked.

## **Questions**

1. Does your MS's legislation foresee special visas/residence permits to facilitate the immigration of TCN a. startup founders and/or b. startup employees? Yes/No
2. If yes, what is the duration of such visas/residence permits and is there a possibility to extend them?
3. If yes, how many applications for startup related visas and/or residence permits have been lodged each year since startup schemes have been in place in your MS? What has been the acceptance rate each year? Please provide data for all the years since startup schemes have been in place (as they are relatively new), up to April 2017.
4. If yes, what are the main countries of origin? Please provide data for all the years since startup schemes have been in place (as they are relatively new), up to April 2017.
5. If yes, does your MS have any special measures to attract TCN startup founders and/or employees? These may include special funding and investments, incubation programmes, tax breaks or other special benefits.
6. If yes, may the beneficiaries of the startup visas/permits bring their family and what types of rights and benefits are extended to their family members?

## **Responses**

	<b>Country</b>	<b>Wider Dissemination</b>	<b>Response</b>
	Austria	Yes	<b>1. a.</b> In Austria, under the current legal situation third-country nationals may apply for a Red-White-Red – Card for self-employed key workers, if their self-employed gainful employment involves a benefit for the economy as a whole, going beyond a benefit only for the individual



company. The relevant provisions are laid down in the Settlement and Residence Act and in the Act Governing the Employment of Foreigners. Upon entry into force of the Act Amending the Aliens Law 2017 a separate Red-White-Red – Card for start-up founders will be introduced. Specifically, after entry into force of the Act Amending the Aliens Law 2017, third-country nationals may be admitted as start-up founders in Austria, if they - reach at least 50 points (Annex D to the Act Governing the Employment of Foreigners); - develop and introduce into the market innovative products, services, procedures or technologies in the framework of a company to be newly founded; - a consistent business plan for the foundation and the operation of the company is presented; - decisive influence is in fact exercised personally on the management of the planned company; - capital for the company to be founded in the amount of at least EUR 50,000 is shown, whereas half of the amount has to be equity. Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior. b. No. There is no special residence permit or visa for start-up employees.



**2.** So far, a Red-White-Red – Card is generally valid for one year (Art. 20 para 1 Settlement and Residence Act). However, the government has made a legislative proposal to extend the general validity of Red-White-Red – Cards to two years (see [www.parlament.gv.at/PAKT/VHG/XXV/I/I\\_01523/index.shtml](http://www.parlament.gv.at/PAKT/VHG/XXV/I/I_01523/index.shtml)).


**3.** Since a Red-White-Red – Card for start-up founders will be introduced through the Act Amending the Aliens Law 2017, there is only statistical data with respect to the Red-White-Red – Card for self-employed key workers. No statistical data can be provided on the number of Red-White-Red – Cards for self-employed key workers applied for each year. For the number of Red-White-Red – Cards for self-employed key workers issued please see annex no. 1. Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior.


**4.** There are only statistical data on the valid Red-White-Red Cards in general (including statistical data on all forms of Red-White-Red – Cards). Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior.

**5.** With respect to settlement, upon entry into force of the Act Amending the Aliens Law 2017, a separate Red-White-Red – Card for start-up founders will be introduced (see above). Information on the Red-White-Red Card for potential applicants can be found at [www.migration.gv.at](http://www.migration.gv.at). In general, in this context mention has to be made of the start-up program developed by the Austrian

			<p>Federal Government, see:  <a href="https://www.bmwf.w.gv.at/Wirtschaftspolitik/Standortpolitik/Seiten/Start-up-Paket-st%C3%A4rkt-Gr%C3%BCnderland-%C3%96sterreich.aspx">https://www.bmwf.w.gv.at/Wirtschaftspolitik/Standortpolitik/Seiten/Start-up-Paket-st%C3%A4rkt-Gr%C3%BCnderland-%C3%96sterreich.aspx</a>. In addition it has to be noted, that the Austrian Economic Chamber offers a special “Start-up Service”, see <a href="http://www.wko.at/service/Start-up_Service_(Gruenderservice).html">www.wko.at/service/Start-up_Service_(Gruenderservice).html</a>. Specific information with respect to special aid, investments or tax breaks for start-up founders should be obtained from the competent Federal Ministry for Science, Research and Economy: <a href="http://www.bmwf.w.gv.at">www.bmwf.w.gv.at</a>. Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p><b>6.</b> Please see the Austrian National Report on Family Reunification (2016).</p>
	Belgium	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> The Belgian legislation does not foresee special visas/residence permits for start-up founders or start-up employers.</p> <p><b>2.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>3.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>4.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>5.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>6.</b> N/A</p>
	Bulgaria	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> Currently there are no benefits in the legislation of the Republic of Bulgaria related to the issuance of residence permits to third-country nationals who are founders or hired in start-up innovative companies.</p> <p><b>2.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>3.</b> N/A</p>


			<p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. N/A</p>
	Croatia	Yes	<p>1. No</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. N/A</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. N/A</p>
	Cyprus	Yes	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. The initial permits are issued for one year, renewable for one year more. Two (2) months before the expiration date of the renewed residence permit, the founder must submit a new application to the Competent Authority . The Competent Authority will evaluate whether the startup is successful by presenting sufficient development (scale up), has failed or, although has not presented sufficient development, has a positive potential of success. If the evaluation shows that the startup has achieved sufficient development (scale up), then the applicant will receive a relevant Notification of Final Approval, which will state the following: • Personnel working in the company at the time that the Notification of Final Approval is issued will be ensured the right of residence and employment in the Republic, in the relevant company, with no time limit. For the paid employees there will be a potential of a two year issue / renewal of residence permits and for the self-</p>


			<p>employed, one year , by paying the corresponding fees. These persons will be able to directly exercise the right to family reunification, in accordance to immigration laws.</p> <p><b>3.</b> The scheme is very recent (end of feb.2017), therefore no data exist.</p> <p><b>4.</b> pls see above</p> <p><b>5.</b> The individuals who will be approved and participate in the Individual Scheme will benefit from the following: • Right to economic activity and residence in the Republic for one year, and with the possibility of renewal for at least another year. • Right to self-employment or right to paid employment in his/her registered company within the Republic. • Prospective residence in the Republic without any maximum time restrictions, if the enterprise succeeds. • Enjoyment of family reunification, if the enterprise succeeds. • Prospective recruitment of specific number of personnel from non-EU countries without prior approval of the Department of Labour, in case of success of the enterprise. The success or failure of the enterprise will be assessed at the end of the second (2) year.</p> <p><b>6.</b> Pls see above.</p>
	Czech Republic	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> NO</p> <p><b>2.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>3.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>4.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>5.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>6.</b> N/A</p>



	Estonia	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>2.</b> A TCN may be issued a short-stay or long-stay visa for engagement in start-up enterprise. A visa for startup entrepreneurship may be issued for up to 365 days and extended for up to 183 days. For prospective start-up entrepreneurs, who have established their start-up in Estonia and wish to stay longer, it is possible to apply for a temporary residence permit for entrepreneurship. The period of stay determined by a long-stay visa shall be extended for engagement in start-up enterprise, provided that the whole period of stay of the alien with a long-stay visa is no longer than 548 days within 730 consecutive days. A TCN may be issued a temporary residence permit for enterprise with the period of validity of up to five years and shall be extended by five years at a time from the date of the grant or extension of the temporary residence permit for enterprise. A TCN may be issued a temporary residence permit for employment in a start-up for the period of employment in Estonia planned by the employer with the period of validity for up to two years. A temporary residence permit for employment can be extended for the period of employment planned by the employer for up to five years at a time from the issue or extension of the temporary residence permit for employment.</p> <p><b>3.</b> Registration of short-term employment in Estonia for working in start-up (from 18.01 until 30.04.2017): 15 applications have been submitted and the short-term employment has been registered. Temporary residence permit for employment in start-up (from 18.01 until 30.04.2017): 16 applications have been submitted, of which 10 are still being processed and 6 have been granted a residence permit. Temporary residence permit for start-up enterprise (from 18.01 until 30.04.2017): 9 applications have been issued, of which 7 are still being processed and 2 have been granted a residence permit. Start-up visas (from 18.01 until 30.04.2017): 21 applications have been submitted. As the regulation for start-up visas/residence permits have been in place for a short time it is not possible to provide the acceptance rate as many of the applications are still being processed.</p> <p><b>4.</b> Registration of short-term employment in Estonia for working in start-up Applications by citizenship: 1 Egypt, 1 Argentina, 3 USA, 2 Ukraine, 1 Turkey, 1 Columbia, 2 Russia, 2 India, 1 South-Africa, 1 Philippines Temporary residence permit for employment in start-up Applications by citizenship: 5 Ukraine, 1 India, 1 South Africa, 1 USA, 1 Egypt, 1 Argentina, 1 Russia, 4</p>
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			<p>Belarus, 1 Brazil Temporary residence permit for start-up enterprise Applications by citizenship: 1 USA, 3 India, 2 Russia, 2 Ukraine, 1 Belarus</p> <p><b>5.</b> Startup Estonia, a governmental initiative, is also actively promoting Estonia abroad as an attractive destination for start-up entrepreneurs and skilled workers. They engage in both online and offline activities (e.g. participating in international fairs, etc). If as a general rule an employer is obliged to pay a TCN whose short-term employment in Estonia has been registered a remuneration in the amount equal to at least the annual average gross monthly salary last published by Statistics Estonia, then this requirement is not be applied in case of employment in a start-up company. A temporary residence permit for employment may be issued without meeting the requirement for permission of the Estonian Unemployment Insurance Fund and without meeting the requirement for the amount of remuneration to be paid to a TCN in case of employment in a start-up company. A temporary residence permit for start-up enterprise may be issued without the usual requirement for the amount of investment.</p> <p><b>6.</b> Yes, if a TCN is issued a visa for engagement in start-up business, a visa may be issued to the spouse, a minor child or an adult child who due to his or her health status or disability is unable to cope independently, under the same conditions as to the specified TCN. It is possible for your spouse to work temporarily on the basis of the visa if the employment has been registered by the employer with the Police and Border Guard Board before the employment commences. In case a person has been issued a startup residence permit there are less requirements for family reunification. The requirement for registered place of residence and actual dwelling shall not be applied as a requirement for the issue of a temporary residence permit to settle with the spouse if the spouse for the purposes of settling with whom the residence permit is applied for has received a residence permit for enterprise or for employment in a start-up company. If the spouse is issued a residence permit for settling with a spouse, (s)he is allowed to work without any additional registration needed.</p>
+	Finland	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> Not at the moment. Please see response to Part I of the ad hoc -query.</p> <p><b>2.</b> -</p>






			<p>3. -</p> <p>4. -</p> <p>5. -</p> <p>6. -</p>
	France	Yes	<p>1. Yes. (See Q1. of the AHQ on start-up policies for third-country nationals part. 1 for additional information)</p> <p>2. Up to 4 years and renewable (See Q2 of the AHQ on start-up policies for third-country nationals part. 1 for additional information)</p> <p>3. In 2016, 5 residence permits and 61 long stay visas have been granted for start-up founders/entrepreneur and start-up employees in the framework of the “talent passport”. These figures only concern the months of November and December 2016. Indeed, the “talent passport” program has been enforced in November 2016. (Source: Ministry of the Interior - DGEF – DSED) Before the implementation of the "talent passport" residence permit, a residence permit with specific conditions called "skills and talents" (compétences et talents) was aimed to TCN carrying out a project in the industrial, commercial, artisanal, sports, artistic or intellectual field. Such project could include start-up if other criteria were fulfilled. Number of Residence card « skills and talents» issued: 2012: 286 2013: 251 2014: 228 2015: 220 2016: 195 (Source: Ministry of the Interior - DGEF – DSED) Regarding the French Tech Tickets Program (See Q1. of the QAH part.1), in 2016, 722 start-up projects were submitted for a total of 1,372 candidates. Only 3% of the candidates were selected (50 entrepreneurs). In 2017, 70 foreign start-ups (180 entrepreneurs) will be selected. Source: <a href="http://www.lafrenchtech.com/sites/default/files/documents/dp-demoday-french-tech-ticket-16012017.pdf">http://www.lafrenchtech.com/sites/default/files/documents/dp-demoday-french-tech-ticket-16012017.pdf</a></p> <p>4. Regarding the French tech ticket program, the most represented countries are: India, United States, Egypt, Brazil and Russia.</p>


			<p><b>5.</b> Yes. France introduced in November 2016 a new program to encourage foreign entrepreneurs to come and create their start-up in France called French tech program. This program foresees a competition of international start-up called “French tech ticket” with an attractive welcome package for the winners. Within the framework of this competition, winners can benefit from the accelerated and simplified procedure for the issuance of the residence permit “passport talent” above mentioned. This welcome package also includes a funding of 45,000€ per team (€ 20k to cover personal costs and € 25k to cover professional services); 12 months of incubation and a dedicated office space in one of France’s 41 partner incubators; a tailored program of masterclasses, networking Events, mentoring sessions; a “Welcome Guide” and special offers to help winners to relocate easily to France and a help desk to help foreign nationals with administrative procedures. Besides, French tax legislation foresees tax exemption and exemption from social healthcare contributions for young innovative enterprises (See Q2 of the AHQ on start-up policies for third-country nationals part. 1 for additional information)</p> <p><b>6.</b> Yes. The residence permit "talent passport - family" is granted automatically to the spouse and minor children of the beneficiary. This permit has the same validity period as the “passport talent” residence permit. This residence permit specific to family members entitles them to work in France. (article L. 313-21 of the CESEDA)</p>
	Germany	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> No.</p> <p><b>2.</b> n/a</p> <p><b>3.</b> n/a</p> <p><b>4.</b> n/a</p> <p><b>5.</b> n/a</p> <p><b>6.</b> n/a</p>



	Hungary	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> Yes, we foresee special visas for startups. Hungary's Digital Startup Strategy has been accepted by the government on 27 December 2016 with Government Decree 1858/2016.</p> <p><b>2.</b> The strategy recommends a 1-year residence permit with the possibility of extension (1 year).</p> <p><b>3.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>4.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>5.</b> Not right now, the planned Startup Budapest Program will contain special measures to attract TCN startup founders.</p> <p><b>6.</b> N/A</p>
	Ireland	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> Yes. Ireland has an immigration scheme the Start-Up Entrepreneur Programme (STEP). This is an administrative scheme - the particulars are not set out in legislation. The STEP was established to stimulate productive investment in the State and to offer residency in the State with its associated advantages to business professionals, who have a proven record of success, and their immediate family members. The STEP was devised to facilitate the relocation of international entrepreneurs who have a business that would potentially fit the Enterprise Ireland High Potential Start Up (HPSU) eligibility criteria.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Permission to work and reside in Ireland for an initial period of two years. Where an applicant is a visa required national they will be granted a multiple entry visa for the period of two years to facilitate business-related travel. During this period beneficiaries must have private medical insurance and must not have recourse to public funds. Residence permission may be renewed subject to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> The Start-up remaining in place thereafter for the designated period</li> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> An assessment by the Evaluation Committee of the success or viability of the investment</li> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> The candidates maintaining their good character</li> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> The candidates maintaining their private medical insurance and not having recourse to publicly funded welfare</li> </ul>

			<p>programmes On renewal, residence permission will be granted for a further three years, and thereafter permission may be renewed in five year instalments.</p> <p><b>3.</b> The Start Up Entrepreneur Programme commenced in April 2012 and a total of 390 approx. applications have been made to June 2017 with 150 of those for the year 2017. Numbers of applications approved are as follows: Applications approved 2016 43 2015 25 2012 - 2014 12</p> <p><b>4.</b> Breakdown not available.</p> <p><b>5.</b> There are no special measures to attract start-ups. However the STEP guidelines outline the advantages of starting up in Ireland. See pages 2 -3 of guidelines here:  <a href="http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/step-applic-guide-dec2016.pdf/Files/step-applic-guide-dec2016.pdf">http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/step-applic-guide-dec2016.pdf/Files/step-applic-guide-dec2016.pdf</a></p> <p><b>6.</b> Spouses and minor children are allowed to accompany successful applicants.</p>
	Italy	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Further to validation of entry requirements, the applicant is granted a residence permit for start-up self employment of a duration of one year. The Start-up visa may be renewed for a maximum of two years after which it may be renewed again for the same duration.</p> <p><b>3.</b> The Italia Start-up visa programme was launched on 24 June 2014. The figures reported hereafter considers applications until 31 December 2016. 2014 (from 24 June) 2015 2016 Total  Total number of applications 18 44 99 161 see attached file Since the launch of the programme up to the very end of 2016, 161 applications were lodged. A total of 105 applications received a positive evaluation (success rate of 65.2%).</p> <p><b>4.</b> see attached file</p> <p><b>5.</b> Along with the start up visa, the Italian government's startup policy has introduced a flexible labour law with 6 to 36-month temporary contracts applicable for the whole startup's life cycle (up to 4 years). Moreover, startups have the chance to introduce performance-related pay and</p>

			<p>remunerate workers and external consultants with stock options and work for equity respectively, with a privileged tax treatment for stock options. Finally, there's a 35% tax credit for hiring highly-qualified personnel with open-ended contracts.</p> <p><b>6.</b> Beyond its particularities, the Start-up visa falls under the ordinary category of self-employed visa and residence permit. Family reunion and other benefits is therefore ruled under the normal regime applicable to self-employed residents.</p>
	Latvia	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> Yes</p> <p><b>2.</b> The right to stay is granted for three years. The residence card will be issued for one year and it should be registered annually.</p> <p><b>3.</b> The scheme is applicable since 1st May 2017. No applications yet.</p> <p><b>4.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>5.</b> There is a special “Law On Aid for the Activities of Start-up Companies” where these measures have been provided (see the attachment).</p> <p><b>6.</b> Yes, family members can be admitted. They will be granted temporary residence permits with unlimited access to employment for the same period as sponsor.</p>
	Lithuania	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> Yes, as of 1 January 2017.</p> <p><b>2.</b> The residence permit may be issued for 1 year and extended once for another 1 year period.</p> <p><b>3.</b> In 2017 - 38 applications.</p> <p><b>4.</b> Russia, Ukraine.</p>

			<p><b>5.</b> Funds need to be secured by the applicant. There is no specific funding for foreigners. General funding rules apply.</p> <p><b>6.</b> Family members may join immediately. General right are extended to family members (access to labour market and other services available to other migrants).</p>
	Luxembourg	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> No. They have to apply as an independent worker in accordance with articles 51, 52 and 53 or as an investor in accordance with articles 53bis, 53ter and 53 quater of the amended law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration (Immigration Law). The start-up employees if they are third-country nationals have to apply for an authorisation of stay as a salaried worker (articles 42 and 43 of the Immigration Law).</p> <p><b>2.</b> N/A.</p> <p><b>3.</b> N/A.</p> <p><b>4.</b> N/A.</p> <p><b>5.</b> N/A. Start-ups is part of the Digital Strategy of the Luxembourgish Government. Luxinnovation employs a sector-targeted trade promotion and prospection approach to attract foreign investors to Luxembourg, independently if they are third-country nationals or not. Luxinnovation provides start-ups with the right information on Luxembourg's attractive business environment for innovative companies. The services include coaching, individual support to set up a business plan, (fit 4 Start) to create a company, to find private and public funding and assisting the company to enter the market. The fit 4 Start offers a 16-week programme of coaching and weekly follow-up by "Lean Start-Up" experts, free access to the co-working space of an incubator and a grant up to 50.000€.</p> <p><b>6.</b> N/A.</p>

	Netherlands	Yes	<p><b>1. A. YES, B. NO.</b></p> <p><b>2.</b> For start-up founders: The start-up residence permit will be issued for a period of one year. After one year, the start-up entrepreneur may have his residence permit extended on the basis of the Dutch government's so-called self-employment scheme under the condition that the start-up entrepreneur meets the standard requirements applicable to the self-employment scheme.</p> <p><b>3.</b> 2015: 50 applications for startup related visas and/or residence permits 2016: 70 applications for startup related visas and/or residence permits 2017 (01-04): 20 applications for startup related visas and/or residence permits Acceptance rate: 2015: 32% 2016: 40% 2017 (01-04): 63%</p> <p><b>4.</b> Please see the attached document.</p> <p><b>5.</b> Yes. Namely for the start-ups "StartupDelta" very active. StartupDelta is an independent public-private partnership. Together with the main innovation hubs in the Netherlands, the team works with the ministries of Economic Affairs and Education Culture and Science, the startup community and other partners. The aim is to merge the Dutch startup ecosystem into one single connected hub. They help to improve access to talent, capital, networks, knowledge and markets. For more information, please visit: <a href="http://www.startupdelta.org">www.startupdelta.org</a>. The Netherlands Enterprise Agency helps startups to grow and to accelerate their business by offering credits, subsidies and guarantee schemes, by providing access to networks, and by organizing relevant events. For more information, please visit: <a href="http://www.rvo.nl">www.rvo.nl</a>.</p> <p><b>6.</b> Yes. The family members are allowed to work in the Netherlands without applying for a working permit.</p>
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> No. Special provisions regarding start-ups have already been introduced into the Slovak legislation within the amendment to the Act on Residence of Aliens this year. This act regulates more favourable conditions (accelerated procedure) for persons who wish to start a business in Slovakia a carry out a start-up project. This means a support to foreigners who apply for residence permit for the purpose of business and who submit together with their application for residence permit also a business plan for the implementation of an innovative, so called start-up, project.</p>

			<p>This business plan is subsequently sent to the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic which shall evaluate it. In case of a positive decision, the application shall be assessed within an accelerated procedure of 30 days. Once this kind of residence permit is granted, these persons, registered already as entrepreneurs in Slovakia, can participate in programmes for small and medium-size businesses, aiming at support of start-ups.</p> <p><b>2.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>3.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>4.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>5.</b> N/A</p> <p><b>6.</b> N/A</p>
	Slovenia	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> No.</p> <p><b>2.</b> /</p> <p><b>3.</b> /</p> <p><b>4.</b> /</p> <p><b>5.</b> /</p> <p><b>6.</b> /</p>
	Spain	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> Yes, the Spanish legislation foresees special entrance, stay and residence visa/permits to those foreign nationals who intend to start up, develop or run a business activity as entrepreneurs.</p>






**2.** There are two kind of permits: • Visas to enter and stay in Spain for one year period with the sole or primary purpose of making preliminary arrangements in order to be able to develop an enterprising activity. • Business activity residence permit valid for two years throughout the national territory to start up, develop or run a business activity as entrepreneur. Holders of permits may apply for their renewal for two-year periods, as long as they continue to meet the conditions that generated this right.

**3.** • Since Act 14/2013 has entered into force, 338 entrepreneurs have benefited from it. • The number of applicants has increased substantially each year. • The average acceptance rate is around 40%. Around 90% of the rejections are due to the fact that the activity is not considered entrepreneurial as it cannot be considered an innovative activity of special economic interest for Spain.

**4.** The main countries of origin are the following: • USA (54). • Venezuela (32). • Russia (21). • Colombia (16). • Argentina (16). • India (14). • México (13).

**5.** a) Migration facilities: • A single permit to live and work anywhere in Spain. • Combined processing of permits and/or visas for family members. • No Economic Needs Test is applied. • Streamlined processing: – Visa decisions are made and notified within 10 working days. – Decisions are made on residence permits within 20 days. – Activity evaluated within 10 working days. • Residence permit procedures are centralised at a single contact point: the Large Business and Strategic Groups Unit. b) Other programs: • Rising Startup Spain: is a program aimed at foreign Startups and entrepreneurs who contribute to fostering entrepreneurial activity in Spain through scalable and innovative projects. This is a until nine month program from the start of the incubation period. It offers the following support services for Startups: – Free workspace in Madrid and Barcelona, two hotspots for Startups. – Prize money of €10.000 to cover initial Startup expenses. – Easier access to Visa and Residence permits. – Instrumental Mentoring to help you connect with potential investors. • ICEX Invest in Spain provides free, professional and confidential immigration information and consultancy services for companies, investors and entrepreneurs to obtain residence and work permits. • Promotion and cooperation with incubation programmes (i.e. Google Camp Madrid).

			<p><b>6.</b> Yes, according to Article 62.4 of Act 14/2013, (i) the spouse or person with an analogous affective relationship, (ii) children who are minors or those of legal age who, being financially dependent on the holder, have not formed a family unit for themselves and (iii) ascendants in their charge, who accompany or join the foreign nationals entrepreneur, may apply, jointly and simultaneously or successively, for an authorization and, where applicable, a visa. To be beneficiaries, evidence must be provided of being in compliance with the personal requirements to obtain the business residence permit (as mentioned in question 3 part 1). Two of them can be now highlighted: a) Have a public or private health insurance policy with an insurance company authorised to operate in Spain. b) Have sufficient financial resources for themselves and for the members of their families during their residence in Spain.</p>
	Sweden	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> No. Under Swedish immigration law, third-country nationals can be admitted as employees, and residence permits can also be granted to persons who want to start their own business in Sweden, transfer their existing business to Sweden, or acquire a Swedish business. But there is no special programme to facilitate such immigration.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Not applicable.</p> <p><b>3.</b> Not applicable.</p> <p><b>4.</b> Not applicable.</p> <p><b>5.</b> Not applicable.</p> <p><b>6.</b> Not applicable.</p>
	United Kingdom	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> a) Yes. A third-country national who would like to come to the UK to start a business may be eligible to apply for a Tier 1 Entrepreneur visa. A specific Tier 1 Graduate Entrepreneur visa is also available for 2000 graduates per year. b) A start up employee would usually need to apply through the Tier 2(skilled worker) route provided they met the conditions. See Query 1 answer for more details.</p>

			<p><b>2.</b> The duration of the entrepreneur visa is 3 years and 4 months. This can be extended for 2 years. Applicants must have invested their funds, established themselves in business, and created at least two jobs for resident workers in order to extend their visa. People may be able to apply for settlement (known as ‘indefinite leave to remain’) once they have been in the UK for 5 years. Accelerated settlement is available in 3 years if the entrepreneur is able to create 10 jobs (rather than two) or a business income of at least £5 million.</p> <p><b>3.</b> Statistics are provided in the attached Excel document. These show visa applications(made outside the UK) and in country applications.</p> <p><b>4.</b> Statistics are provided in the attached Excel document. These show visa applications(made outside the UK) and in country applications.</p> <p><b>5.</b> No information available</p> <p><b>6.</b> Yes, applicants may bring their partners and dependant children under the age of 18. Dependants have the right to work and study, but like all points based system migrants they are not able to access public funds.</p>
	Norway	Yes	<p><b>1.</b> No</p> <p><b>2.</b> NA</p> <p><b>3.</b> NA</p> <p><b>4.</b> NA</p> <p><b>5.</b> NA</p> <p><b>6.</b> NA</p>