

**Question for written answer E-001601/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Catherine Griset (PfE)

Subject: Ensuring that the 'EU talent pool' will not open the door to illegal immigration

As part of the Pact on Migration and Asylum, the Commission has proposed establishing an EU talent pool (COM(2023)716): a platform for recruiting jobseekers from third countries for occupations facing labour shortages in the EU.

Open to low, medium and highly skilled workers, the platform could, however, deprive developing countries of their most skilled workers, which would go against the EU's stated objectives.

What is more, it is feared that the scheme will enable a number of third country nationals to enter Europe and remain here illegally after their jobs have come to an end, or even without having actually worked here.

In order to ensure the scheme will not open the door to illegal immigration:

1. Will the Commission check the validity and equivalence of migrant applicants' diplomas?
2. Will the Commission provide access to the scheme on the condition that the third countries involved sign a readmission agreement?
3. Will the Commission remove access to the scheme for nationals of countries that refuse to take participants back, particularly if they entered the EU and remained illegally as a result of this platform?

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