

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003700/25  
to the Commission  
Marieke Ehlers (Pfe)  
(24 September 2025)**

*Subject:* Answer to Written Question E-002052/2025 on limitations of EU-SILC data

Thank you for the Commission's relatively detailed answer to our Written Question E-002052/2025 <sup>(1)</sup>. In its answer, the Commission states that the EU-SILC data used does not allow for a detailed analysis by country of origin or migration motive, as such information is not collected. This constitutes a significant obstacle to gaining a thorough understanding of the costs associated with, and effectiveness of, EU migration policy.

In view of the above:

1. Does the Commission recognise that a detailed breakdown by migration motive (employment, asylum, family reunification, study) and specific region of origin is essential for the development of an effective, targeted and evidence-based migration policy? If not, why not?
2. Can the Commission explain the specific reasons why this data — migration motive and country of origin — is not currently included in EU-SILC, and are these obstacles mainly technical, legal (e.g. privacy) or political in nature?
3. What concrete steps is the Commission taking to ensure that this data is collected in the future?

Submitted: 24.9.2025

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission  
(22 December 2025)**

As indicated in the Action plan on integration and inclusion 2021-2027 <sup>(1)</sup> and in its mid-term review, efficient integration policies should be built upon reliable evidence <sup>(2)</sup>.

Improving the availability and consistency of migration-related data across Member States is essential to support evidence-based policymaking.

Understanding migration motives and regions of origin can enhance the development of effective, evidence-based migration and integration policies.

The migration and asylum statistics <sup>(3)</sup> collected by the Statistical Office of the EU provide harmonised EU data on immigration, asylum and residence permits broken down by factors like birth country and citizenship, helping with patterns identification and policy development.

The EU statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) survey is primarily a general socioeconomic survey, not a dedicated migrant survey.

It does not specifically capture detailed migration motives and countries of origin. The sample size and methodology are tailored to provide reliable statistics on broad population groups, but are not structured to capture smaller, specific groups. This affects the ability to provide detailed breakdowns without compromising the statistical reliability and validity of the data.

The Commission is exploring avenues to enhance the availability and granularity of migration-related data. For instance, the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights conducts surveys focused on experiences and conditions of migrant populations in the EU, like the EU survey on immigrants and descendants of immigrants. These surveys can supplement the information provided by general surveys like EU-SILC.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-002052\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-002052_EN.html)

<sup>(1)</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/NL/ALL/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0758>.

<sup>(2)</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52025SC0162>.

<sup>(3)</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/migration-asylum>.