

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article 12: (Title Area of freedom, security and justice, Part II of the Treaty)

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Article 12: [Immigration]

1. The Union shall develop a common immigration policy aimed at ensuring, at all stages, the efficient management of migration flows, fair treatment of third-country nationals residing legally in Member States, and the prevention of, and enhanced measures to combat, illegal immigration and trafficking in human beings.
 2. To this end, the European Parliament and the Council, in accordance with the legislative procedure, shall adopt laws and framework laws in the following areas:
 - conditions of entry and residence, and standards on the issue by Member States of long-term visas and residence permits, including those for the purpose of family reunion;
 - definition of the rights of third-country nationals residing legally in a Member State, including the conditions governing the freedom of movement and of residence in other Member States;
 - illegal immigration and unauthorised residence, including removal and repatriation of persons residing without authorisation;
 - combating trafficking in persons, in particular women and children.
 3. The Union may conclude readmission agreements with third countries for the readmission of third-country nationals residing without authorisation to their countries of origin or provenance.
 4. The European Parliament and the Council, in accordance with the legislative procedure, may adopt laws and framework laws providing incentive and support for the action of Member States with a view to promoting the integration of third-country nationals residing legally in their territories.
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Comment: The issue of work permits for third country nationals should be handled in accordance with the social provisions (article 137).