



Factsheet

Information-supported decision-making

Short-stay visa (KVV)

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Information for applicants and sponsors

If you want to visit the Netherlands for a short stay and require a visa, or if you want to sponsor someone who is going to apply for a visa, this information is for you.

Information-supported decision-making

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) is responsible for decision-making on visa applications. To ensure this happens as quickly and efficiently as possible, the ministry has introduced a way of working based on data analysis. This is known as information-supported decision-making. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs processes data in order to carry out one of its government tasks: making decisions on short-stay visa applications.

More information

Information-supported decision-making involves the MFA using additional information to determine whether a visa application meets the relevant criteria.

The information is collected by the Ministry from its embassies and consulates abroad, as well as from Dutch government agencies such as the Royal Marechaussee (Border Police), the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) and the Repatriation and Departure Service (DT&V). This may include information about you or your sponsor, possibly in relation to visas that have been requested in the past. MFA also makes use of profiles.

The criteria for obtaining a short-stay visa are, and always will be, the same for everyone. These criteria have been agreed on by Schengen countries and are laid down in the Community Code on Visas. The information that the ministry uses only ensures that a better decision can be taken more quickly.

Database

The information is stored in a special, secure database: the Application Assessment Protocols Database (BAO). Personal data held in this database will be deleted or anonymised after **five years**.

How it works

Information-supported decision-making works by comparing information given in visa applications with information held in the BAO. The information given in visa applications is provided by the visa applicant. This includes information about applicants themselves or about their sponsors. If there is a match between the information provided in the application and the information held in the database, the match can help determine whether an application can be fast-tracked or whether an interview or extra document check is needed.

The final decision is not solely based on information from the BAO. Information-supported decision-making is purely an additional resource. Ultimately, it is the consular officer who will decide whether or not to issue a visa. It is **not** a form of **automated** decision-making.

Your questions and rights

If you have any questions about information-supported decision-making or would like to view your information, correct it or ask that it be removed from the database, please contact:
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Consular Affairs and Visa Policy Department (DCV)
Postbus 20061
2500 EB Den Haag
The Netherlands

Or send an email to:
DCV-BAO@minbuza.nl

For more information about exercising your rights in relation to data processing, please see our privacy statement.

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