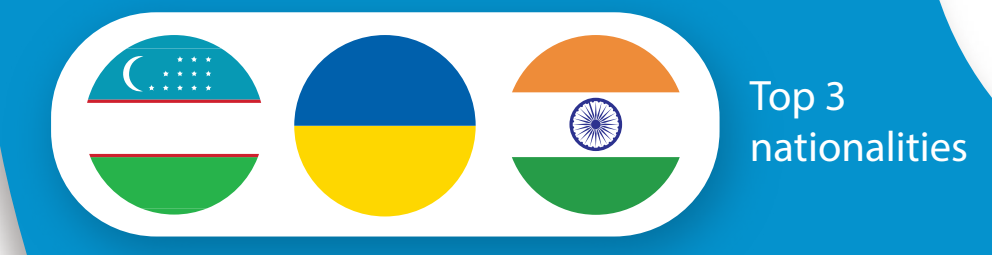


# LABOUR MIGRATION & MOBILITY PATHWAYS TOWARDS...



## Temporary residence permit with the rights for employment

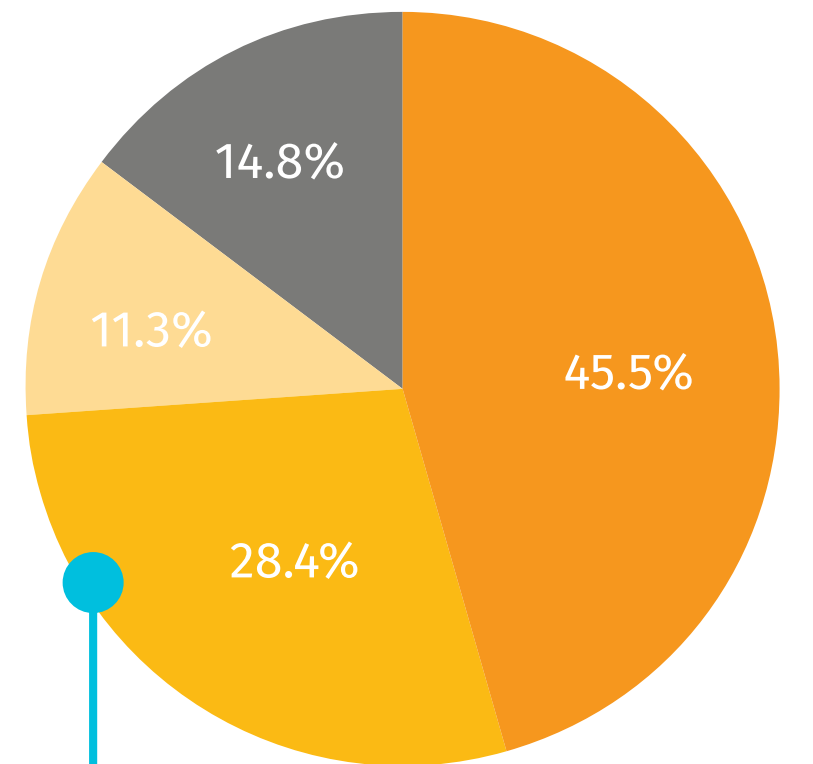
- Open to all TCNs\* with a residence permit issued by the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs; a job offer from an employer in Latvia is required
- TRP is issued for up to 5 years; possibility to receive a permanent residence permit after 5 years
- Employers are required to register a vacancy on the State Employment Agency's vacancies portal; the recruitment procedure can be initiated if the vacancy has not been filled by a Latvian citizen or EU citizen within 10 working days, with some exceptions
- At least 3 years of official related work experience or respective education
- Monthly salary should not be less than average gross monthly salary in Latvia for the previous year



3,549 issued in 2022

The majority of third-country nationals work in the field of land transport and pipeline transport, labour force search and provision with staff, building construction.

- Agriculture, forestry & fish farming
- Mining and quarrying
- Administrative & support service activities
- Other



643 issued in 2022, 1981 between 2017-2022



- Open to all TCNs\* with at least 3 years of official related work experience or respective education
- Employers may invite seasonal workers for a fixed period of up to 6 months in specific sectors
- Employers are required to register a vacancy on the State Employment Agency's vacancies portal; the recruitment procedure can be initiated if the vacancy has not been filled by a Latvian citizen or EU citizen within 10 working days
- Monthly salary should not be less than average gross monthly salary in Latvia (or average in selected industries) for the previous year

## Schengen visa (short-term, up to 90 days during any 180-day period)

## D-type visa (long-term, up to 6 months during the 12 month period)

## Intra Corporate Transfer

- Validity periods of 3 years for managers and specialists and 1 year for trainees
- The inviting legal entity and the employing company must be part of the same group of companies
- Transferee should have been continuously employed by a company abroad or within the same group of companies for at least 6 months prior to the request

39 issued between 2017-2022

## Green Channel initiative

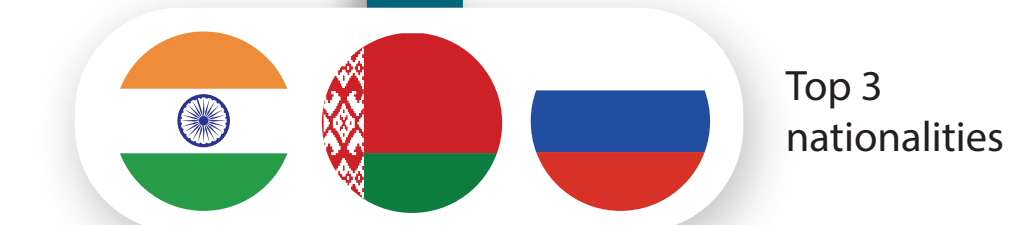
- Introduced in March 2021 in order to shorten the time for administrative procedures: the scheme targets foreign investors in priority sectors such as ICT, bioeconomy, smart materials, biomedicine and photonics
- Companies must meet a set of specific criteria, including a minimum investment amount, job creation targets, planned product and service exports, and investment in research and development

## Startup Visa

- Introduced in 2017, is offered to all non-EU startup founders who are willing to establish a scalable business that's registered in Latvia
- Startup visa (temporary residence permit) is given for the period of maximum 3 years
- The main criteria for getting a Startup visa is an innovative (most often technology-based) startup idea, which is easily scalable and yields a high added value

41 issued to founders representing 17 startups, 360 issued for 175 startups between 2019-2023

357 issued in 2022



- Open for all TCNs\*
- Employers may invite highly qualified specialists for a period of the employment contract and no longer than 5 years
- Applicants shall have a higher education or at least 5 years of official related work experience
- Amount of labour payment shall not be less than the monthly average gross remuneration in Latvia for the previous year multiplied by coefficient 1,5 (if the profession is experiencing a labour force shortage, a slightly lower coefficient of 1,2 may be applied)

## EU Blue Card

5 issued between 2022-2023

- Introduced in June 2022 for OECD TCNs who work remotely for foreign employers or are self-employed in various fields such as consulting or IT services
- The Digital Nomad visa is initially issued for 1 year, with the option to apply for a 1 year extension
- Monthly salary must be at least 2,5 times the average monthly gross salary in the previous year in Latvia

## Digital Nomad Visa

### SKILL LEVEL



\*TCN = third-country national

This infographic summarises findings from MPF (2024). *Re-thinking approaches to labour migration. Potentials and gaps in EU member states' migration infrastructures*. Case Study: Latvia, Brussels: ICMPD. This publication was funded by the European Union and commissioned through the Migration Partnership Facility. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union nor ICMPD. NB: Pathway data is provided for the years indicated where numbers are available. Lack of a number implies that data is not publicly available and the author of the report was not able to access data per pathway otherwise. The infographic represents the labour migration pathways as of February 2024, changes thereafter may not be reflected. © ICMPD 2024