



Migrationsverket

Use of the VIS in the asylum process

THE SWEDISH EXAMPLE

Organisational structure

- The Swedish Migration Agency (SMA) is the national authority that handles all migration issues in Sweden
 - *Visas, residence permits, asylum and citizenship*
- The SMA is a central visa authority and responsible for managing the processing IT-system, N-VIS is one subsystem, other subsystems handle other type of cases
- Data stored in the **central foreigner database** (CUD) and in C-VIS
 - *Complete history of all cases for a TCN in Sweden*
- The SMA is subject to the Ministry of Justice

Tools available for follow up of misused visas

- In 2019, SMA produced a harmonized risk analysis web based template for reporting of misused visa (Schengen visas) issued by Sweden
 - “*Webropol*”
- Monthly and annual statistics is produced on Swedish asylum cases
 - Number of VIS hits
 - Date of issued visa
 - Nationality of the applicant
 - Member state (MS) and consulate that issued the visa
- “*Escalation staircase*” (also known as an information process) was developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Justice

Practical examples – visas issued by Swedish consulates

- Monthly statistics (May 2024)

Consulate	Case number	Nationality	Date of decision
ADDIS ABABA	xxx	ETHIOPIA	20200102
BEIRUT	xxx	SYRIA	20211228
HAVANA	xxx	CUBA	20231112
	xxx	CUBA	20231020
	xxx	CUBA	20230307
ISTANBUL	xxx	STATELESS	20220111
	xxx	TÜRKIYE	20211201
	xxx	TÜRKIYE	20190808
	xxx	TÜRKIYE	20230928
	xxx	TÜRKIYE	20220628
CAIRO	xxx	EGYPT	20240404
MOSCOW	xxx	RUSSIA	20230207
	xxx	RUSSIA	20230314
NAIROBI	xxx	KENYA	20240408
	xxx	NIGERIA	20230301
	xxx	NIGERIA	20230306
	xxx	ETHIOPIA	20240223
	xxx	ETHIOPIA	20231106
NEW DELHI	xxx	INDIA	20240402
	xxx	INDIA	20240410
BEIJING	xxx	MONGOLIA	20230202
RABAT	xxx	MOROCCO	20240418

- Asylum application → the SMA takes the applicant's fingerprints and checks them against the VIS database
- The SMA produces the statistics and sends a list of the cases to the consulate
- Consulate reviews the cases and completes a *web based template* for reporting of misused visa
- All data is anonymised and applicant can not be identified
- A quarterly report is created automatically for each location → supporting tool for assessing migratory risk

A quarterly report on visa misuse

- An example of content of the report (jan-mar 2024)
- 45 reported cases of visa misuse

	N	Procent of total
Tourism	16	35,60%
Business	4	8,90%
Family visit	21	46,70%
Culture	3	6,70%
Sports	1	2,20%
Studies	1	2,20%

The main purpose of travel

Time period	Procent of total
0-1 months	42,20%
1-6 months	37,80%
6-12 months	15,60%
12+ months	4,40%

Time between the expiry of visa issued and the asylum application

Nationality	Number	Procent of total
Bangladesh	1	2,20%
Ecuador	1	2,20%
Egypt	3	6,70%
Ethiopia	3	6,70%
Philippines	3	6,70%
India	5	11,10%
Jordan	3	6,70%
Morocco	6	13,30%
Nigeria	5	11,10%
Russia	6	13,30%
Sierra Leone	1	2,20%
Stateless	1	2,20%
South Africa	3	6,70%
Türkiye	3	6,70%
Zambia	1	2,20%

Information regarding applicant's nationality

Previous visa history	Procent of total
Yes	9,10%
No	90,90%

Previous visa history

Annual statistics

- most frequent nationality with VIS hits, last 12 months

Nationality	Asylum claims	With issued visa	Percentage	Visa issued by SE	Percentage issued by SE
UZBEKISTAN	771	272	35%	0	0
UGANDA	225	150	67%	1	1%
IRAN	760	145	19%	8	6%
AZERBAIJAN	231	110	48%	0	0
NIGERIA	249	105	42%	20	19%
TÜRKIYE	523	104	20%	42	40%
RUSSIA	290	90	31%	35	39%
SYRIA	1069	86	8%	1	1%
ERITREA	408	81	20%	1	1%
KAZAKSTAN	157	68	43%	0	0
Other	6389	721	11%	151	21%
TOTAL	11072	1932	17%	259	13%

Annual statistics

- Asylum applications vs VIS hits
- Issuing Member States, year 2023

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024 (maj)
Asylum applications	11419	16738	12498	4279
VIS hits	957	2248	1997	665
Percentage with issued visas	8%	13%	16%	15%

Issuing Member State	VIS hits
ITALY	280
SWEDEN	279
GERMANY	262
FRANCE	241
GREECE	206
SPAIN	130
POLEN	112
CZECH REPUBLIC	78
LATVIA	74
HUNGARY	72
NETHERLANDS	56
LITHUANIA	37
BELGIUM	29
PORTUGAL	21
FINLAND	20
AUSTRIA	20
ESTONIA	19
SWITZERLAND	18
NORWAY	18
DENMARK	12
SLOVENIA	6
CROATIA	4
MALTA	2
LUXEMBOURG	1
TOTAL	1997

Schengenvisas issued by other Member States

- "Escalation staircase"

- If high, trending numbers, SE initiates communication with concerned MS
- Communication through Ministry of Justice or Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (in case of representation agreement)
- Report with profile of cases and list of VIS-application numbers is shared with responsible MS
- Follow up after 6 months
- Drop in number of asylum cases during the pandemic: follow up of the method has not been possible

An example of Uzbekistan, 2024

Nationality		Total number of VIS hits	
UZBEKISTAN		103	
Issuing Member State	Number of VIS hits	Issuing Consulate	
GERMANY	34	TASHKENT	73
LATVIA	16	MOSCOW	22
GREECE	15	ALMATY	7
CZECHIA	13	ASTANA	1
LITHUANIA	8		
POLEN	7		
SPAIN	5		
ITALY	3		
AUSTRIA	1		
FINLAND	1		
TOTAL	103		

Thank you!

