

# **Republic of Croatia**

## **Country presentation**

**Regional Workshop on Establishing Labour  
Migration Policies in Countries of Origin and  
Destination and international collaboration  
in the Western Balkans**

Tirana, 09-10 February 2009

# LABOUR MARKET KEY INDICATORS IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

- Population (census 2001.): 4.437.460
- Active population: 1.798.000
  - Activity rate: 63,7%
- Employed: 1.625.000
  - Employment rate: 57,4%
  
- Rate of registered unemployment (CES): 14,8%
- Unemployment rate (Labour force survey) : 9,6%

# LEGAL FRAMEWORK

## **Aliens Act**

("Official Gazette" no. 79/07)

- Regulates the issues of entry, residence and work of aliens in Croatia

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- Implemented since 1 January 2008
- In line with EU directives - more restrictive conditions relating to the approval of temporary and permanent residence as well as self-employment
- Obligation of harmonization taken over through Chapter 2 - Freedom of movement for workers; Chapter 3 – Right of establishment and freedom to provide services; Chapter 23 - Judiciary and fundamental rights and Chapter 24 - Justice, freedom and security.

## **BY-LAWS**

- **Rulebook concerning the status and work of foreigners in the Republic of Croatia ("Official Gazette" no. 36/08)**
- **Rulebook concerning travel documents for foreigners, visas and the procedures of foreigners are treated (" Official Gazette " no. 36/08 i 42/08)**
- **Rulebook on the terms of granting consent (" Official Gazette " no. 26/08)**
- **Decision on setting of annual quota for work permits for employment of foreigners for the year 2008 ("Official Gazette" no. 130/07, 106/08)**

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- Rulebook on establishing the conditions for approval of temporary residence to foreigners for the purpose of scientific research(" Official Gazette " no. 42/08)
- Rulebook on establishing the conditions for entry and stay in the Republic of Croatia for nationals of the Member States of the European Economic Area and members of their families and family members of Croatian citizens(" Official Gazette "no. 62/08)

## MIGRATION POLICY FOR 2007-2008 ("Official Gazette" no. 83/07)

- A migration policy was adopted for the first time in the Republic of Croatia in 2007 on the basis of the earlier Aliens Act
- The Action plan for implementation of the migration policy has determined 17 measures that include all levels of state bodies
- It contains the basic principals and guidelines referring to the integration of foreigners and public awareness raising on various aspects of migration flows;
- The formation of a working group for a new migration policy 2009-2013 is in process

# WORK OF FOREIGNERS

- On the basis of work or business permits
- Jurisdiction of granting permits – Police Administrations/Stations of the Ministry of Interior (since 2004)
- Work Permits – Annual quota/ Outside annual quota

# ANNUAL QUOTA OF WORK PERMITS

**The Government of The Republic of Croatia determines the annual employment quota since year 2004 based on the proposal of :**

**-the Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship**

**and opinion of :**

- **Croatian Employment Service**
- **Croatian Chamber of Economy**
- **Croatian Crafts Chamber and**
- **Representatives of social partners**

**In accordance with the migration policy and the labour market situation**

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Yearly quota is set for:

- new employment
- extension of already issued work permits
- seasonal employment
  
- determines the activities and occupations in which the employment of foreigners is allowed and the number of work permits for each of the stated activities and professions

# ANNUAL QUOTA ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGNERS ON THE BASIS OF DECISION MADE BY GoC

<b>Year</b>	<b>New Employment</b>	<b>Extensions</b>	<b>Total</b>
2004	2.589	5.000	7.589
2005	1.400	1028	2.428 (+ 400 seasonal = 2.828)
2006	1.037	1400	2.437
2007	2.613	2.000	4.613
2008	7.742	2.500	10.242

## WORK PERMITS OUTSIDE THE ANNUAL QUOTA

- 7 categories of foreigners who can work on the basis of work permits issued outside of the annual quota:
- Daily migrants, key personnel under the Agreement on Stabilization and Association, foreigners performing the key tasks, internal transfers according to the Marakesh contract, teachers and lecturers who are running classes in the language and script of national minorities, professional athletes, on the basis of international treaty

## Without Work/Business permit

- 19 categories of foreigners who can work up to 30 days a year without work or business permit
- For example foreigners who work as procurists, Board members, supervisory board members, artists, editors, artists in the field of film, music-performance art, lecturers, members of international missions, etc.

## **WORK WITHOUT A WORK OR BUSINESS PERMIT ON THE BASIS OF APPROVED STATUS IN CROATIA**

Foreigners permanently residing in Croatia; foreigners who were granted asylum; victims of trafficking; foreigners in autonomous residence; foreigners on temporary stay for the purpose of the family reunion with Croatian citizen, permanent resident or Asylum seeker; foreigners who have the status of regular students, or research fellows

# BUSINESS PERMIT

Issued to:

- Founders of companies
- Craftsmen
- Persons handling free occupations
- Service providers on the behalf of foreign employers
- Since 01 January 2008 a business permit is NO longer a residence and work permit at the same time, rather it is only a work permit

# NUMBER OF ISSUED WORK AND BUSINESS PERMITS FROM 2004 TO 2008

<b>Year</b>	<b>Work Permits</b>	<b>Business permits</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
2004.	2979	3356	6335
2005.	3814	3875	7689
2006.	3884	5455	9339
2007.	5264	6820	12084
2008.	11 337	1441	12 778

# TEMPORARY STAY WITH THE PURPOSE OF WORK IN 2008

<b>(Top 10 citizenships)</b>	
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	<b>7 585</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>506</b>
<b>Serbia</b>	<b>463</b>
<b>FYROM</b>	<b>404</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>258</b>
<b>Austria</b>	<b>227</b>
<b>Germany</b>	<b>221</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	<b>207</b>
<b>Russia</b>	<b>178</b>
<b>Czech republic</b>	<b>140</b>

# NUMBER OF ISSUED TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT RESIDENCE PERMITS

<b>Year</b>	<b>Temporary residence</b>	<b>Permanent Residence</b>
<b>2004.</b>	<b>14 664</b>	<b>1524</b>
<b>2005.</b>	<b>16 873</b>	<b>1041</b>
<b>2006.</b>	<b>18 859</b>	<b>1049</b>
<b>2007.</b>	<b>21 467</b>	<b>1399</b>
<b>2008.</b>	<b>19 642</b>	<b>1000</b>

Observation: The concerning approvals are for the ongoing calendar period from 1.1. to 31.12

# EMPLOYMENT OF CROATIAN WORKERS ABROAD PERSUANT TO BILATERAL EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENTS - EMIGRATION FLOWS

- Bilateral agreement about the employment of workers from Croatia have been signed with 2 countries: Germany - concerning guest workers up until 18 months (2002) and Slovenia(1994)
- Mediation for Germany is handled through the Croatian Employment Service (including agreements concerning seasonal workers, students, and nursing staff)
- With Germany an agreement on posted workers was also signed (2002) – in the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship

# Number of migrant workers from the Republic of Croatia to the Federal Republic of Germany from 2004 to 2008

Year	Total	Seasonal Workers	Medical technicians	Guest Workers	Students	Posted workers
<b>2004.</b>	4.993	4.778	31	168	16	3.043
<b>2005.</b>	4.769	4.615	11	111	32	2.715
<b>2006.</b>	5.159	5.013	12	103	31	3.216
<b>2007.</b>	4.909	4.757	19	109	24	3.379
<b>2008.</b>	4.734	4.589	15	125	5	3.470
<b>Total</b>	<b>24.654</b>	<b>23.752</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>15.823</b>

Seasonal Workers	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total number of realized contracts	4.778	4.615	5.013	4.758	4.589
Agriculture (%)	71,2	70,5	73,2	71,6	71,6
Catering (%)	27,1	27,8	25,3	25,7	26,5
Entertainment (%)	1,7	1,7	1,5	1,7	1,9
Women (share %)	64,4	63,5	61,2	61,9	60,1

**Thank You For Your Attention**

**Speaker: Ljiljana Maglić Radoš**  
**Head of Unit for Foreigners Status Affairs**  
**Ministry of Interior**  
e-mail: [ljmaglic@mup.hr](mailto:ljmaglic@mup.hr)  
[www.mup.hr](http://www.mup.hr)