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COMIX 256

DECLASSIFICATION

of document: ST 7234/06 RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED
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new status: Public
Subject: Schengen evaluation of the new Member States
- Questionnaire - Additional question presented by the Finnish delegation on the issuing of visa - Reply from SLOVENIA

Delegations will find attached the declassified version of the above document.

The text of this document is identical to the previous version.

RESTREINT UE



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7234/06

RESTREINT UE

SCH-EVAL 49
COMIX 256

NOTE

from : the Republic of Slovenia
to : the Schengen evaluation Working Party

No. prev. doc. : 6358/06 SCHEVAL 16 COMIX 160

Subject : Schengen evaluation of the new Member States
- Questionnaire - Additional question presented by the Finnish delegation on the issuing of visa - Reply from SLOVENIA

Referring to doc. no. 6358/06 SCH-EVAL 16 COMIX 160 of 17 February 2006, please find below the answers to additional questions on the issuing of visa presented by the Finnish delegation.

Question 74. In answers (Statistics) to this Question it can be noted that in some of the new Member State Embassies inside the Schengen Area the rejection rate is 5 - 10 %. The same Member States have a rejection rate of 1 – 2 % in Kiev, Ukraine. The average rejection rate of the Schengen Embassies in Kiev is 15 %.

a) Is it possible to specify the reason for this, i.e. why the rejection rates of applications received from the Schengen Area is bigger than those concerning applications received from outside the Schengen Area?

RESTRICTION UE

In year 2005 the Slovene Embassy in Kiev processed 4852 visa applications, whereby 4731 visas were issued and 121 refused. The statistical data show the following:

	Visa applications	Visas issued	Visas refused
Number	4852	4731	121
Percentage	100%	97'5%	2'5%

	Visas issued	Visas B	Visas C
Number	4731	2662	2069
Percentage	100%	56'3%	43'7%

When looking at the rejection rate one has to take into account that more than 50% of visas issued are transit visas issued to Ukrainian nationals who had already been granted a Schengen visa. Out of 2069 travel visas around 20% has been issued to the "bona fide" applicants (business partners of credible Slovene companies with their branches in Ukraine). The rejections have to be viewed within the remaining number of visa applications, whereby in this case the 121 visas refused amount to 6'8% of rejection rate.

- b) *Do your Embassies follow the rejection rates of the other Member States and are they aware of the reasons to the rejections of the other Member States?*

The persons authorised for visa processing at the Embassy regularly attend the Schengen meetings within the local consular cooperation. The representatives of the embassy are aware of the information mentioned in the scope exchanged among the EU partners.

- c) *Do you follow the exchange of statistical information on the issuing of uniform visas (Doc. 9749/05 VISA 134 COMIX 377 of 3 June 3 2005 + COR 1 of 2 August 2 2005).*

Yes.