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Global Immigration alert

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Netherlands

Netherlands limits RNI registration for third-country nationals to two locations

Executive summary

The Dutch government recently reduced the number of Registration Desks for non-residents (RNI desks) available to third-country nationals (i.e., non-EU, non-EEA and non-Swiss nationals). From this date, impacted individuals will only be able to register at two RNI locations: Breda and Venlo. This measure aims to centralize expertise in document verification, strengthen identity checks and support authorities in addressing illegal employment, exploitation and human trafficking.

Background

Third-country nationals who do not intend to reside in the Netherlands but who require a BSN (Citizen Service Number) must register at an RNI desk. These are usually individuals who travel to the Netherlands for shorter periods and need to be included in the Dutch administrative, tax or payroll systems. Previously, 19 RNI desks across the country provided this service to all nationalities.

Key developments

Effective 1 January 2026, these individuals must visit one of the two designated municipalities:

- Breda
- Venlo

EU, EEA and Swiss nationals will continue to have access to all 19 RNI desks.

By implementing this measure, the Dutch State Secretary for Interior Affairs and the Minister of Social Affairs aim to increase visibility on illegal employment risks, improve detection of exploitation and trafficking indicators and centralize knowledge and expertise among the RNI staff.

Impact on employers

Employers may expect longer lead times for RNI appointments, as only two sites remain available. Foreign nationals who need a BSN may also face additional travel, since from 1 January 2026 they must visit either Breda or Venlo to complete the process.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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