

To whom it may concern,

I moved to the Netherlands in 2024 under the European Blue Card Scheme. While I had opportunities to relocate to other countries (such as Germany, the UK, or the US), I deliberately chose the Netherlands because of its political stability and strong reputation as a welcoming environment for talent.

Since my arrival, I have consistently contributed to society, both socially and economically. I have worked in international companies within the top salary range, paying substantial taxes and supporting the Dutch economy. My commitment to staying here is driven not only by my appreciation for the Netherlands, but also by the sense of stability and fairness I expected when making such an important life decision.

If this bill passes, I would strongly reconsider my future here. This is not just about extending a requirement from 5 to 10 years—it is about the uncertainty it creates. What assurance do we have that, in the future, the requirement will not be extended again to 15 or 20 years? Stability and predictability are crucial factors when skilled professionals choose where to live and build their lives.

With political instabilities in the US, other economic rivals such as China and Canada are actively passing legislation to attract global talent more than ever (See the K-Visa scheme in China). It is striking that, at a moment when the Netherlands could strengthen its position as a prime destination for international professionals, bills are being proposed that move in exactly the opposite direction.

I am convinced that this bill would harm the Netherlands' thriving tech industry and its ability to attract and retain top international talent. With that in mind, I respectfully propose the following:

- Any new changes should not be applied retroactively. They should not affect those who have already moved under the current framework, even if they have not yet completed the original 5-year period.
- A clear distinction should be made between highly skilled migrants (including HSM and Blue Card holders) and other categories of residence, such as asylum seekers. Skilled workers deliberately choose the Netherlands, often leaving other attractive options behind, and contribute significantly by paying taxes and strengthening the economy rather than relying on public funds.

I urge you to take into account the long-term consequences this bill could have for the Netherlands' competitiveness as a destination for highly skilled professionals.

King Regards,