Dutch government

State Secretary for Justice and Security

Internet Consultation

Change RWN re-acquisition and loss of Dutch nationality after a long-term stay outside the Kingdom and the EU

DATE

Dear Sir/Madam,

You ask to respond to Your consultation anonymously. But this also affects me, and / or my family personally. I will not use personally identifying dates, names, etc.

My background story (without being publicly identified)

YOUR STORY STORY STORY and customize below

I think the bill is incomplete and incorrect, but it has at least some good points.

I think the line of thought behind the statement that people no longer have a connection with the Netherlands because of living, working, studying, loving, etc. in another country is incorrect. Of course it may be that a person has no more bonds. But You discriminate by including everyone because of where they live and because of the automaticity of loss. And the discrimination in this is evident from the fact that you state that the bond with Dutch people outside the European Union is not good enough to be allowed to remain Dutch nationals, but within the European Union it is.

You may also be looking at the wrong people in your xenophobia. It is not about foreigners who come to the Netherlands, but about Dutch people who do not want to lose their bonds/connections with the Netherlands. The fact that the internet consultation falls under the heading “Migration and integration” is already demonstrable that you are considering the wrong people here. You may not even have a heading for Dutch people abroad, or “non-residents”.

We mostly grew up in the Netherlands, and even if our children were not born in the Netherlands, they still have ties to the Netherlands. Due to family or work or economic opportunities, we often live abroad, but that doesn't mean we don't even want to return. Doesn’t men us not wanting to take care of our parents, brothers and sisters in the Netherlands. Doesn’t mean us not wanting to buy houses in the Netherlands to live, work, do business with the Netherlands, etc.

Research shows that the abuse of social services from abroad was made virtually impossible a long time ago and that we Dutch people abroad often make a positive contribution to the Dutch treasury and society. So that can't be a valid reason to be so hesitant either. We often contribute more than some people in the Netherlands themselves. So, stop discriminating and depriving us of our birthrights. Our nationality is in fact linked to the possibility of maintaining our ties with the Netherlands. After all, I would not be able to take care of my elderly mother later on if I were only welcome 90 days out of 180 days. Or not even getting a visa for some nationalities because of the fear that the person would want to settle back in the Netherlands. And there are many more aspects in which the loss of nationality affects us. Practical and emotional. Even the so-called return visa for former Dutch citizens does not work for everyone. If you were not born and raised in the Netherlands, it is very difficult. If you were only born in the Netherlands and raised somewhere else (eg just across the border in Belgium), you even fall between the cracks and there is no possibility of a residence permit. And yes, there are plenty of Dutch parents who have their children born in the US or Canada, and then return to the Netherlands with a child who is later rejected as an adult because it was not born in the Netherlands, despite being raised there. And so on.

I therefore request that you put action to word and completely abolish automatic loss by completely removing Article 15 paragraphs 1a and 1c:

We don't want to see more people lose their nationality unintentionally and unnoticed. The many stories I hear from others about incorrect information from embassy and government personnel, or no warnings, etc. also show that this is not an easy matter. Therefore, keep it simple. And 2 years to get your nationality back is good but not enough. Some people only come knocking on this subject after 5 or 10 years. Many are disillusioned with their motherland that has repelled them and do not always keep up with the news. Despite the fact that they still have family etc in the Netherlands. And you shouldn't expect this kind of news from people in the Netherlands either, because everyone I speak to in the Netherlands about this is listening with surprise and doesn't even know the problem. You yourself state in your motivation that you cannot reach everyone. So why only give 2 years? Wouldn't it be more reasonable to keep the option open for 10 or 20 years. Or just very fair and reasonable forever. I understand that the legislation on this is easy to adapt. Rewrite Article 6 paragraph 1f like this:

Article 6 paragraph 1

After making a written statement to that effect, Dutch nationality is obtained by means of a confirmation as referred to in paragraph 3:

f) the foreign national who at any time has possessed Dutch nationality or the status of Dutch subject-non-Dutch national, unless he has lost Dutch nationality pursuant to Article 14, paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and/or 4. The second and fourth paragraphs do not apply.;

IF POSSIBLE, you can cite legal or other points regarding legislation or (international/EU) rights, etc. But substantiate that. Otherwise keep it personal and your own opinions. The above are just ideas and it is better that everyone tells their own story, and / or shows their own reasoning.

Yours sincerely,

Forced Anonymous

A (former) Dutch national in the Netherlands or abroad