

Council Directive 2003/109/EC of 25 November 2003 concerning
the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents

CHAPTER II

LONG-TERM RESIDENT STATUS IN A MEMBER STATE

Article 11

Equal treatment

- 1 Long-term residents shall enjoy equal treatment with nationals as regards:
 - a access to employment and self-employed activity, provided such activities do not entail even occasional involvement in the exercise of public authority, and conditions of employment and working conditions, including conditions regarding dismissal and remuneration;
 - b education and vocational training, including study grants in accordance with national law;
 - c recognition of professional diplomas, certificates and other qualifications, in accordance with the relevant national procedures;
 - d social security, social assistance and social protection as defined by national law;
 - e tax benefits;
 - f access to goods and services and the supply of goods and services made available to the public and to procedures for obtaining housing;
 - g freedom of association and affiliation and membership of an organisation representing workers or employers or of any organisation whose members are engaged in a specific occupation, including the benefits conferred by such organisations, without prejudice to the national provisions on public policy and public security;
 - h free access to the entire territory of the Member State concerned, within the limits provided for by the national legislation for reasons of security.
- 2 With respect to the provisions of paragraph 1, points (b), (d), (e), (f) and (g), the Member State concerned may restrict equal treatment to cases where the registered or usual place of residence of the long-term resident, or that of family members for whom he/she claims benefits, lies within the territory of the Member State concerned.
- 3 Member States may restrict equal treatment with nationals in the following cases:
 - a Member States may retain restrictions to access to employment or self-employed activities in cases where, in accordance with existing national or Community legislation, these activities are reserved to nationals, EU or EEA citizens;
 - b Member States may require proof of appropriate language proficiency for access to education and training. Access to university may be subject to the fulfilment of specific educational prerequisites.
- 4 Member States may limit equal treatment in respect of social assistance and social protection to core benefits.

[^{F14a} As far as the Member State which granted international protection is concerned, paragraphs 3 and 4 shall be without prejudice to Directive 2004/83/EC.]

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5 Member States may decide to grant access to additional benefits in the areas referred to in paragraph 1.

Member States may also decide to grant equal treatment with regard to areas not covered in paragraph 1.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Inserted by [Directive 2011/51/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2011 amending Council Directive 2003/109/EC to extend its scope to beneficiaries of international protection \(Text with EEA relevance\)](#).