Council of Ministers agrees to shorten waiting time for work for asylum seekers with a high chance of obtaining protection

Following a proposal by the Minister of Social Affairs and Employment, the Council of Minsters agreed to allow asylum seekers with a high chance of obtaining an asylum permit to start working after only 3 months. Currently, asylum seekers are only allowed to work after 6 months, with the exception of applicants with a small chance of an asylum permit, such as applicants from safe countries of origin, who are no longer allowed to work at all due to the new rules.

The new rules will be included in a General Administrative Order (AMvB) which will be shared with the House of Representatives and the Senate. The Minister of Social Affairs and Employment then sends it to the Council of State for advice.

Source(s)

- Government | Rijksoverheid (20 March, 2026), Asielzoeker met grote kans op asiel mag eerder starten met werken [Asylum seekers with a high chance of asylum may start working earlier], https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2026/03/20/asielzoeker-met-grote-kans-op-asiel-mag-eerder-starten-met-werken

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