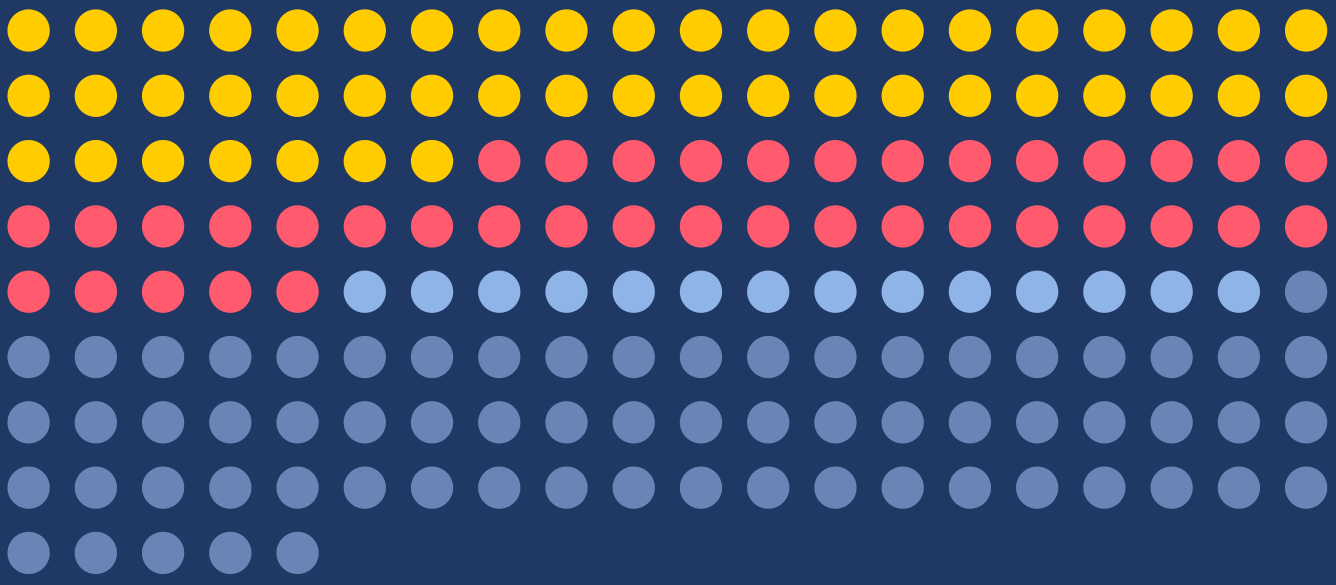
100k EU CONVICTION NOTIFICATIONS SINCE 2025

Centre For Migration Control

The UK's outward criminal conviction notifications to the EU.

165 alerts per day (exc ROI)



Romania 47 Poland 38 Lithuania 14 Other EU states 66

Source: NPCC FOI 3180/2026.

RESEARCH BRIEFING

EU nationals responsible for over 100,000 criminal conviction alerts since 2025

Centre for Migration Control | November 2026

Summary

Britain has sent over 100,000 criminal conviction alerts to EU member states (excluding Ireland) since 2025, new research by the Centre for Migration Control shows.

Since the start of 2023, there have been over 260,000 notifications sent abroad regarding EU nationals (excluding Ireland) convicted in Britain.

In 2025, an average of 165 criminal conviction notifications were sent per day to EU member states (exc Ireland).

These findings come just days after The Times reported that Andy Burnham is prepared to scrap plans to deport more foreign criminals back to Europe in order to achieve his EU reset deal.

Press coverage in recent weeks has also suggested that the Prime Minister is open to the idea of Britain rejoining freedom of movement rules, and that the government's Youth Mobility Scheme could see up to 80,000 migrants move to Britain to work, study, and travel.

Within the EU, a member state is greatly hamstrung in its ability to remove or deport EU nationals who have committed a crime.

Directive 2004/38/EC states that a "Member State may not take an expulsion decision against Union citizens or their family members, irrespective of nationality, who have the right of permanent residence on its territory, except on serious grounds of public policy or public security."

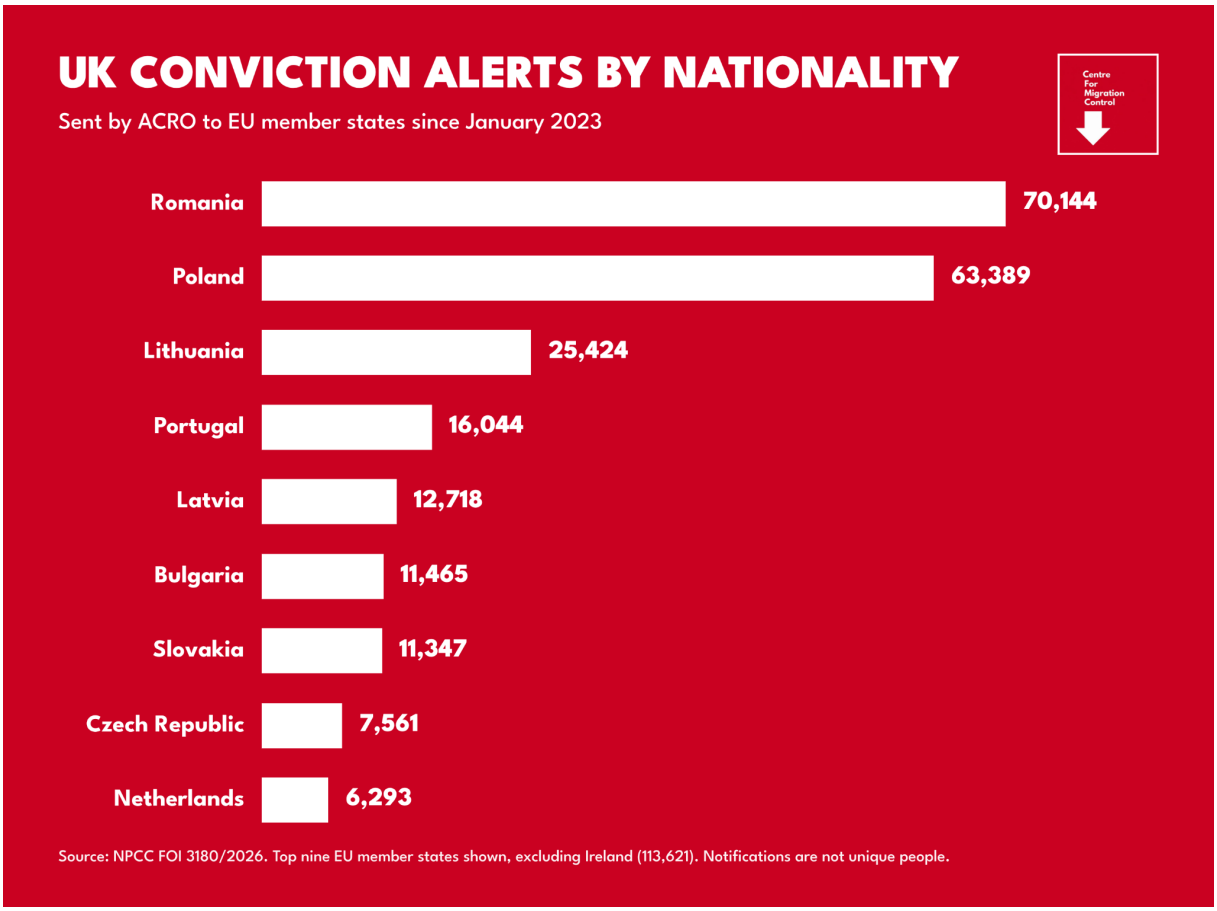
Previous criminal convictions are not enough to justify the removal of an individual. Instead, the individual "must represent a genuine, present and sufficiently serious threat affecting one of the fundamental interests of society".

About the data

In 2025, there were 84,022 criminal notifications sent to EU member states, roughly 230 a day. Excluding the Republic of Ireland, which accounted for 23,555 of these, there were 60,467 notifications sent to EU member states last year, or 165 a day.

A further 44,969 notifications have been sent so far in 2026 to EU member states (excluding Ireland), although the cut-off date for this figure has not been specified.

Since 2023, the top three countries receiving criminal conviction notifications (excluding Ireland) have been Romania, Poland and Lithuania.



ACRO also sends notifications to non-EU countries when their nationals are convicted in the UK, although these processes are much less standardised, and make up a small percentage of total notifications issued. (ACRO ICCE guidance; ACRO information sharing agreement, 2024).

Notifications to EU member states fell by 36% between 2023 and 2025, from 131,735 to 84,022. One potential reason for this fall could be that we have seen several years of net emigration of EU nationals from Britain.

It is worth noting that previous media reporting and answers to parliamentary questions suggest that these figures are higher than whilst Britain was a member of the EU. However, direct comparisons are not recommended.

- For example, the National Crime Agency previously submitted evidence to a House of Lords select committee that stated in 2017 "ACRO notified MS (member states) of over 30,000 convictions handed down to their Nationals in the UK".
- In 2020, Brandon Lewis, the former minister of state for security, told the Lords European Union Committee that in 2019 "the UK sent over 30,000 conviction notifications through ECRIS to EU member states".
- The Daily Mail reported in 2016 that ACRO had sent out 27,056 notifications in 2010 and 37,079 in 2015.
- The Guardian reported that ACRO's annual report showed 35,881 "notifications out" in 2018/19, of which 31,022 were EU. It also reported 46,210 in 2015/16.

These numbers should be caveated with the fact that it was revealed in 2020 that ACRO had failed to send criminal conviction notifications to EU member states due to issues within ACRO and the Police National Computer. The total was later found to be over 100,000. The EU reported that, in 2020, the UK had sent 95,000 backlog notifications.

ACRO and what an outward notification is

Whilst a member of the European Union, Britain was required to, "as soon as possible, inform the central authorities of the other Member States of any convictions handed down within its territory against the nationals of such other Member States, as entered in the criminal record".

If the individual convicted was a dual national, then both countries would receive a notification. From 2012, this process was conducted on behalf of the UK by ACRO via the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS).

EU rules also required any "subsequent alteration or deletion of information contained in the criminal record" to also be sent to member states.

After Britain left the European Union and single market, notifications were no longer sent through ECRIS.

The European Union (Future Relationship) Act, 2020 stipulates that ACRO must continue to notify EU member states if one of their citizens is "convicted by or before a court in a part of the United Kingdom". This is generally the same as it was whilst an EU member.

However, the criteria that subsequent alterations to the conviction must also be sent to the EU member state was tightened. No longer is it the case that "any subsequent alteration" be sent, as per EU rules. Further notifications need only be sent if there is an amendment to the conviction schedule pertaining to date, convicting court, the offence, and the sentence issued. This is most likely to be applicable in instances where an appeal against a conviction is successful, the sentence is varied on appeal, and if the offence is substituted.

Thus under these terms a notification equates to the following:

1. **A new conviction.**
2. **An amendment that changes or deletes the above core conviction data.**

When the CMC approached ACRO regarding the FOI data received, their definition of the data provided was as follows:

"A notification is sent to the relevant EU country when one of its nationals is convicted in the UK. A notification relates to an individual person rather than to a specific offence. In this context, a conviction relates to a court case, which may involve one or multiple offences. Therefore, one notification equates to one convicted individual, although the notification may contain details of several offences arising from the same case."

FOI 3180/2026

NPCC FOI response 3180/2026 (2 Oct 2026, "FOI Stats Notifications") gives calendar-year counts of outgoing notifications by country of nationality. 2026 is a partial year.

Destination	2023	2024	2025	2026 (part)
All 27 EU states	**131,735**	**97,146**	**84,022**	**62,213**

Destination	2023	2024	2025	2026 (part)
EU excluding Republic of Ireland (26 states)	**85,472**	**70,587**	**60,467**	**44,969**
Ireland	46,263	26,559	23,555	17,244
Romania	22,667	18,762	17,329	11,386
Poland	20,916	17,786	13,982	10,705
Lithuania	8,617	7,531	4,965	4,311
Portugal	5,478	4,078	4,051	2,437
Latvia	4,305	3,361	2,890	2,162
Bulgaria	4,288	2,778	2,603	1,796
Slovakia	3,682	2,947	2,563	2,155
Czech Republic	2,345	2,038	1,646	1,532
Netherlands	2,212	1,748	1,240	1,093
Other 17 EU states	10,962	9,558	9,198	7,392
Non-EU countries (largest: Albania)	about 4,000	about 5,000	about 5,250	about 1,350
Albania	1,917	2,604	2,575	762