



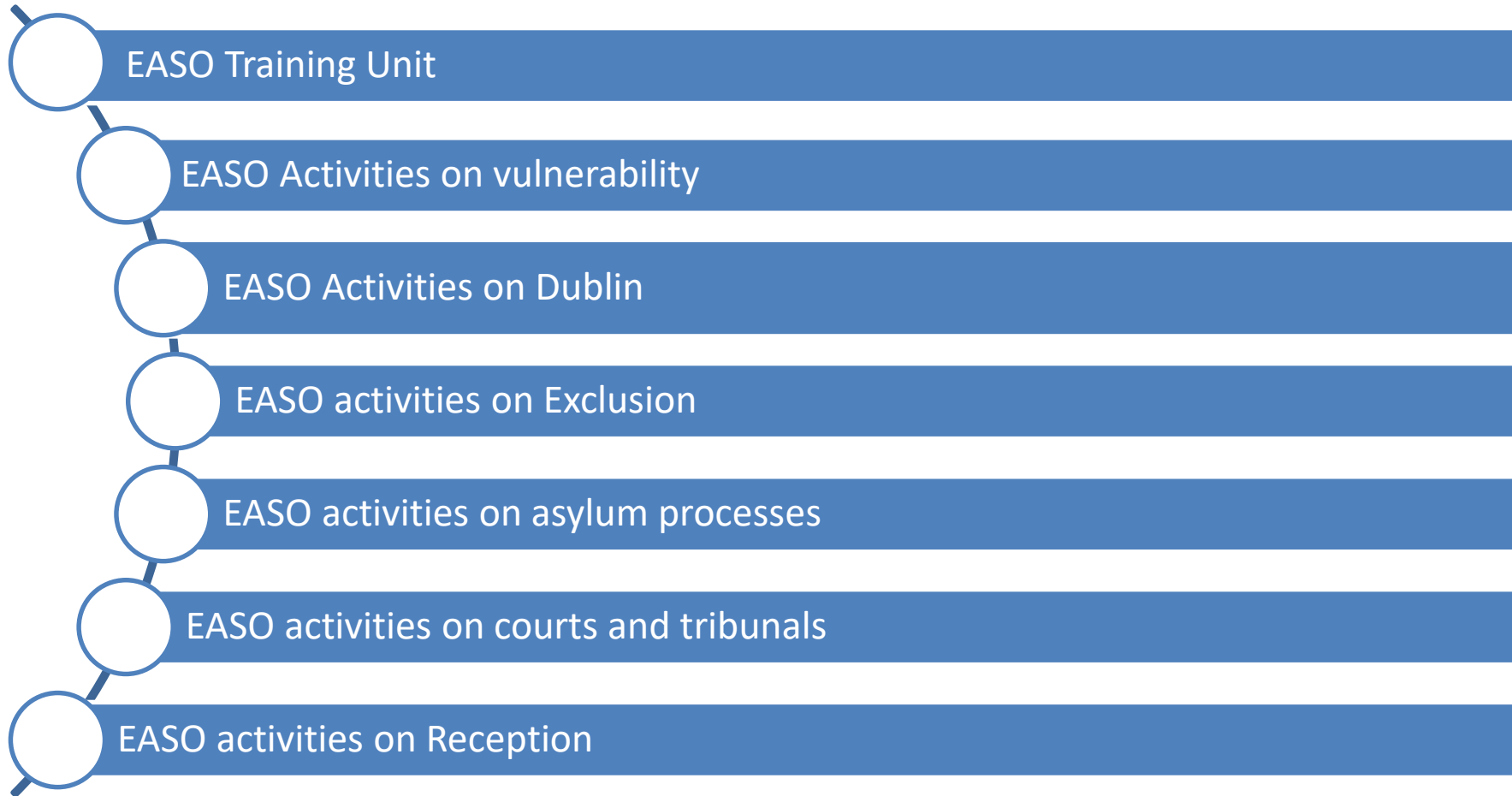
European Asylum Support Office

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EASO Department of Asylum Support

Main activities in 2018

François Bienfait, Head of Department a.i





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EASO Training unit

24 MODULES



Core modules

- Inclusion
- Interview Techniques
- Evidence Assessment

For specific audience

- Interpreters
- Managers
- Communication

Focus on Persons with Special Needs

- Interviewing Vulnerable Persons
- Interviewing Children
- Gender, Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation
- Trafficking in Human Beings
- Reception for Vulnerable Persons

In-depth Knowledge

- Inclusion Advanced
- Asylum Procedures Directive
- Dublin III Regulation
- Reception
- Country of Origin Information (COI)
- Med COI
- Exclusion
- End of Protection
- Fundamental Rights and International Protection in the EU
- Resettlement



Introductory modules

- CEAS
- Introduction to International Protection

- Didactics

EASO Operational Trainings

- Operational training for EASO deployed experts
- Extensive training programme for junior caseworkers
- Extensive training programme for vulnerability experts
- Operational training on access to the asylum procedure
- Operational training on registration of applications for international protection
- Operational training on the Dublin III Regulation
- Operational training on reception
- Operational training for team leaders
- Operational training on interpreting in the asylum context
- Operational training on coaching



EASO Reception Module – statistics for 2012-12/11/2018

- **554 participants**
 - 458 in National Training Sessions
 - 96 in Train-the-Trainers Sessions
- **35 sessions**
 - 28 in National Training Sessions
 - 7 in Train-the-Trainers Sessions

New module on reception for vulnerable groups (End 2019)

Primarily: practitioners working in a reception context who are in direct contact with vulnerable persons, including those working with minors (such as representatives/guardians/educators)

Secondarily: other groups working in a reception context, e.g. managers, asylum officers, interpreters, lawyers etc.



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EASO activities on Vulnerability

VULNERABILITY EXPERTS NETWORK: Launched in November 2018



Enhancing the **identification and response** to the special needs of vulnerable persons who apply for or are in need of international protection by **promoting the practical cooperation** among member states.

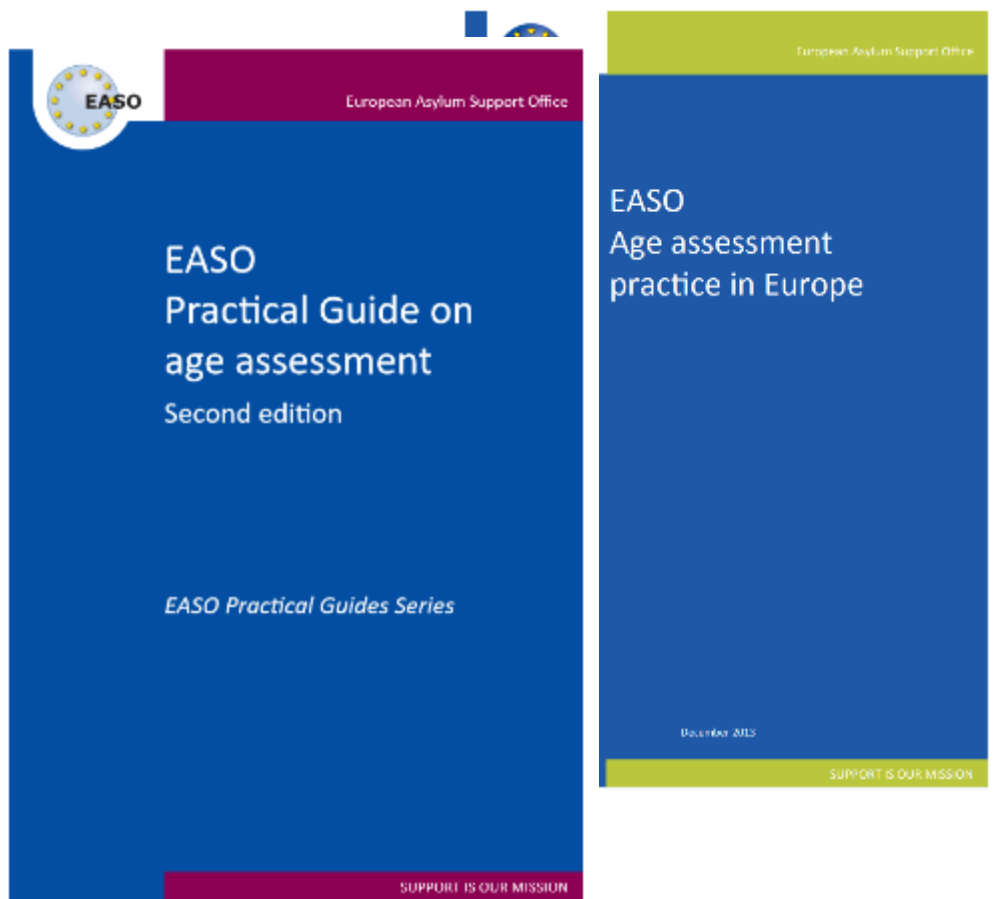


Serving as a platform for the exchange of practices among the members and for the provision of expertise on the vulnerability-specific issues in the context of international protection.



The Network is integrated by 17 EU+ States, COM, FRA, and UNHCR, and 32 representatives of civil society organizations and international organizations and characterized by a close collaboration between all the members

EASO activities on Age assessment: new edition of the practical guide in 2018



- Circumstances of age assessment
- Best interest of the child and procedural safeguards.
- Implementing a holistic and multidisciplinary approach
- Methodology (pros and cons and boxes with MS practice)
- Final recommendations

ANNEXES

- *Glossary*
- *Best interests assessment tools*
- *Legal framework and policy guidance*
- *Overview of EU+ States practices*

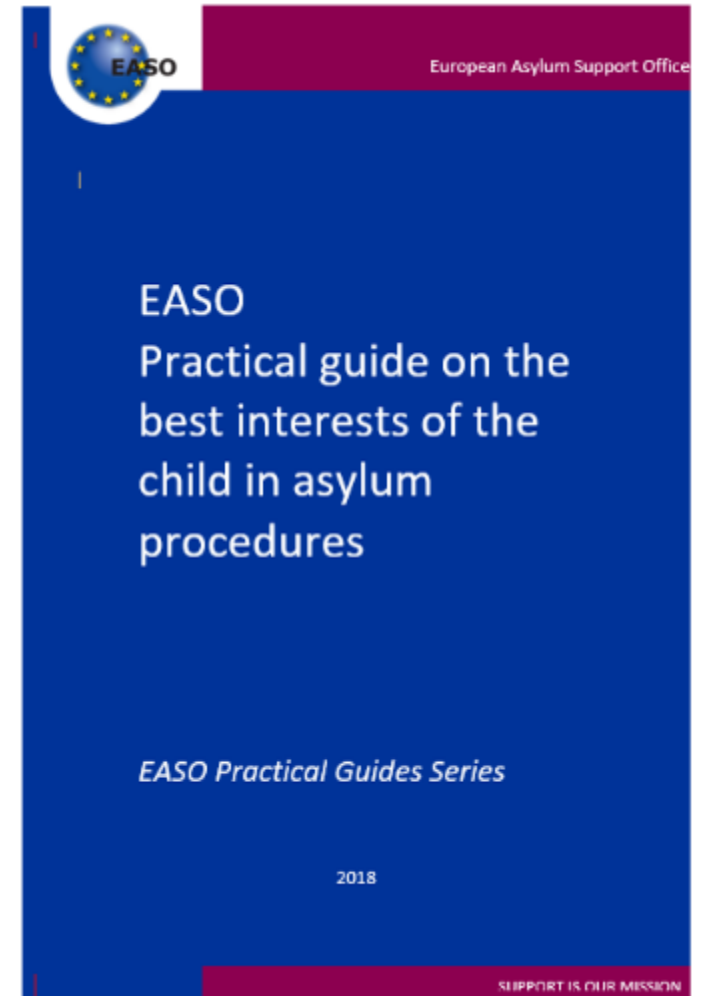


EASO Practical Guide on best interests child in the asylum procedures:

At the publication stage :

Target group: policy-makers and practitioners involved in assessing the best interests of the child and/or dealing with children

The tool will provide guidance on conducting best interests assessment and the necessary safeguards in different stages of the asylum procedure





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EASO activities on Dublin

EASO Network of Dublin Units – Thematic focus on Dublin transfers

Aim: to facilitate the information exchange and practical cooperation between MS related to the implementation of Dublin transfers (through meetings and practical tools)

- Expert meeting on Dublin transfers, 21-22 February 2018, Malta
- Practical tool: Transfer Arrivals Times table
- 4th Steering Group Meeting, 8 June, 2018
- WG (experts from 4 MS) on the EASO Recommendation on Dublin transfers, 24-26 October 2018
- 5th Steering Group Meeting (presentation of the Recommendation), 14-15 November 2018



EASO Network of Dublin Units – Other recurring activities

Aim: facilitate the exchange of information and practical cooperation, identifying challenges and practices of MS

- Quarterly update reports, together with IAU (Periodic Update report)
- Ad hoc queries by MS
- Surveys
- Platform of the Dublin Unit Networks to share information
- Updates of Transfer arrival times table and Contact Details table
- The EASO Network of Dublin Units developed the EASO Practical Guide on the implementation of the Dublin III Regulation: Personal interview and evidence assessment – it is in the last stage, sent to MS for consultation, publication in 2019
- The EASO Recommendation on Dublin transfers is also sent to the MS for consultation.





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EASO activities on exclusion

Asylum Support Unit



Exclusion Network

1. Exclusion Network Meeting on “Exclusion and Iraq”, EASO, 29-30/11/2018
2. Exclusion Tool for Afghanistan (restricted use), to be finalized in December 2018
3. Three Quarterly reports including statistics on exclusion cases issued within 2018
4. Four Queries on exclusion topics issued within 2018 (such as the cooperation between the asylum, judicial and police authorities and Exclusion indications and considerations in the caseload of applicants from Iraq)



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EASO activities on asylum processes

Asylum Support Unit

Asylum Processes Network

1. Practical Guide on Operational Standards and Indicators for the Asylum Procedure, 4th WG reviewed on 3-5 October comments of the Reference Group, additional WG needed
2. Asylum Processes Annual NCP Meeting, 22-23 November

Quality support to Greece

1. Ongoing Quality Feedback reports and support to the Helpdesk in Athens
2. Back-to-back Operational Training for the border and Regular procedure (24-26 September)
3. Coordinated action to improve quality assurance in Greece
4. Upcoming vulnerability mission to Samos (TBD)





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EASO activities on courts and tribunals

EASO Network of Courts and Tribunals Members

- Representatives from **28 Member States** (+NO and CH) & CJEU, ECtHR, IARMJ, AEAJ, ERA, EJTN, ELI and UNHCR
- All activities done with full respect for the independence of the judiciary
 - Need to recognise particular role of judges and executive nature of EASO
 - **‘For judges, by judges’**
- Broad understanding of ‘member of courts and tribunals’ (depending on the national system)

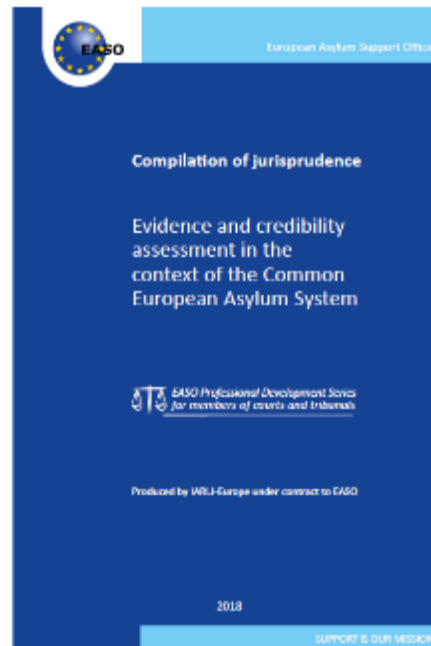
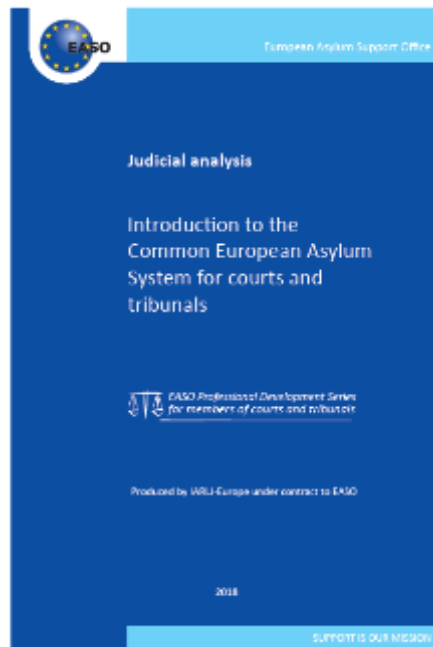


Professional development series (PDS)

Judicial analysis /
Judicial practical guide

Compilation of
jurisprudence

Judicial trainers'
guidance note





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EASO activities on reception

EASO network of Reception Authorities

- The EASO Network of **Reception Authorities** (the ‘**Reception Network**’) is a **network of EU+ States’ national contact points** (‘NCPs’), **engaged** in the EASO **activities on reception** issues. Each EU+ State is invited to **nominate a NCP** to **participate** in the Reception Network.



Members of the Reception Network



Focus: the Reception Conditions Directive (RCD)

- ***The purpose of the RCD: to lay down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection in Member States.***

→ “standards for the reception of applicants that will suffice to ensure them a **dignified standard of living** and **comparable reception conditions in all Member States** should be laid down” (RCD Preamble para. 11)



Objectives

NCP's are engaged in:

information sharing

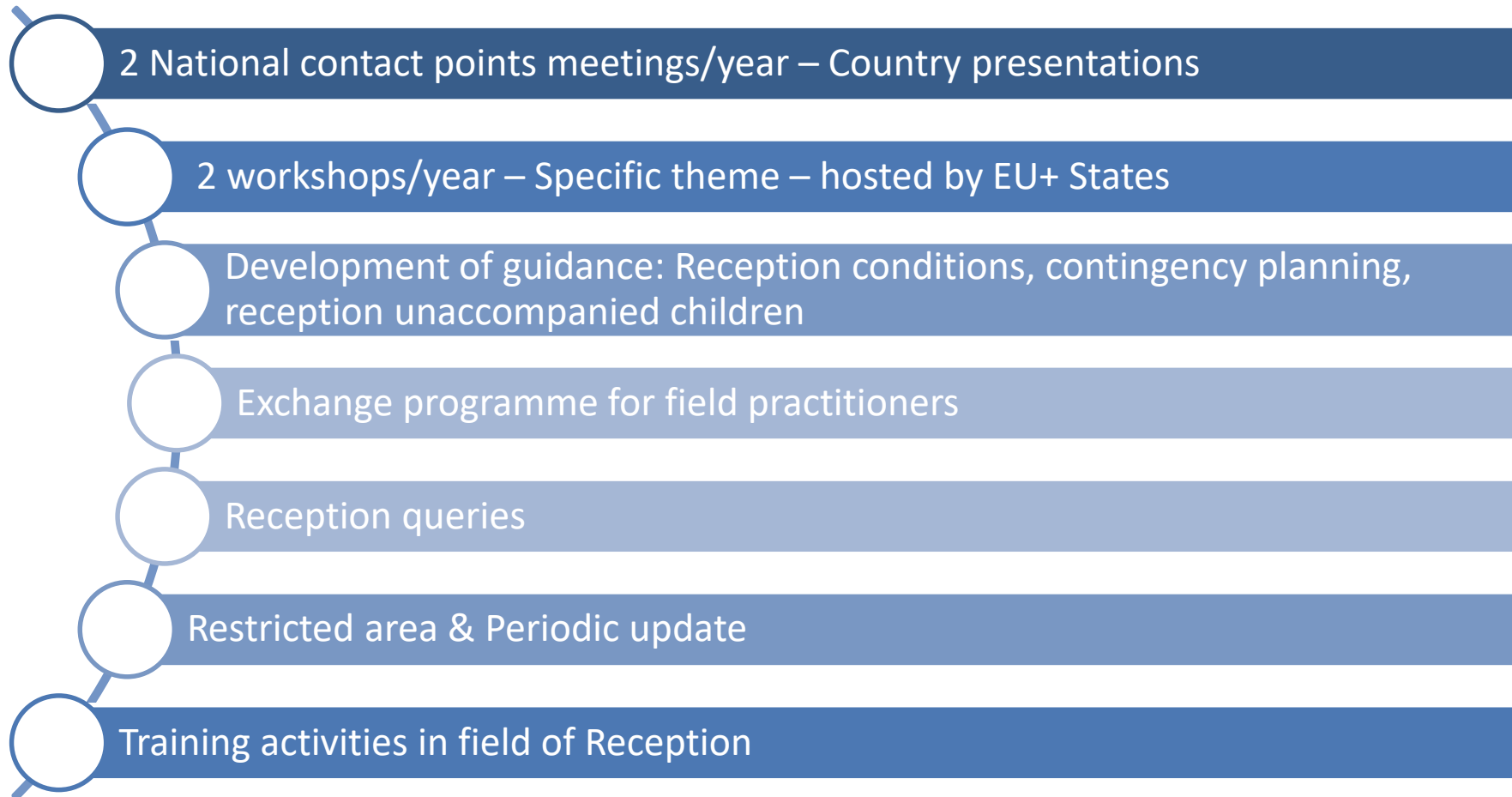
Consultation

data collection

practical cooperation activities



Activities of the Reception network



In collaboration with EPRA: Thematic Workshops

- Brussels (November 2016): Transition to integration
- Paris (May 2017) Reception & Society
- Stockholm (September 2017): reception of UAMs
- Warsaw (June 2018): Prevention, sanctions and withdrawal of reception conditions
- Dublin (October 2018): Quality management

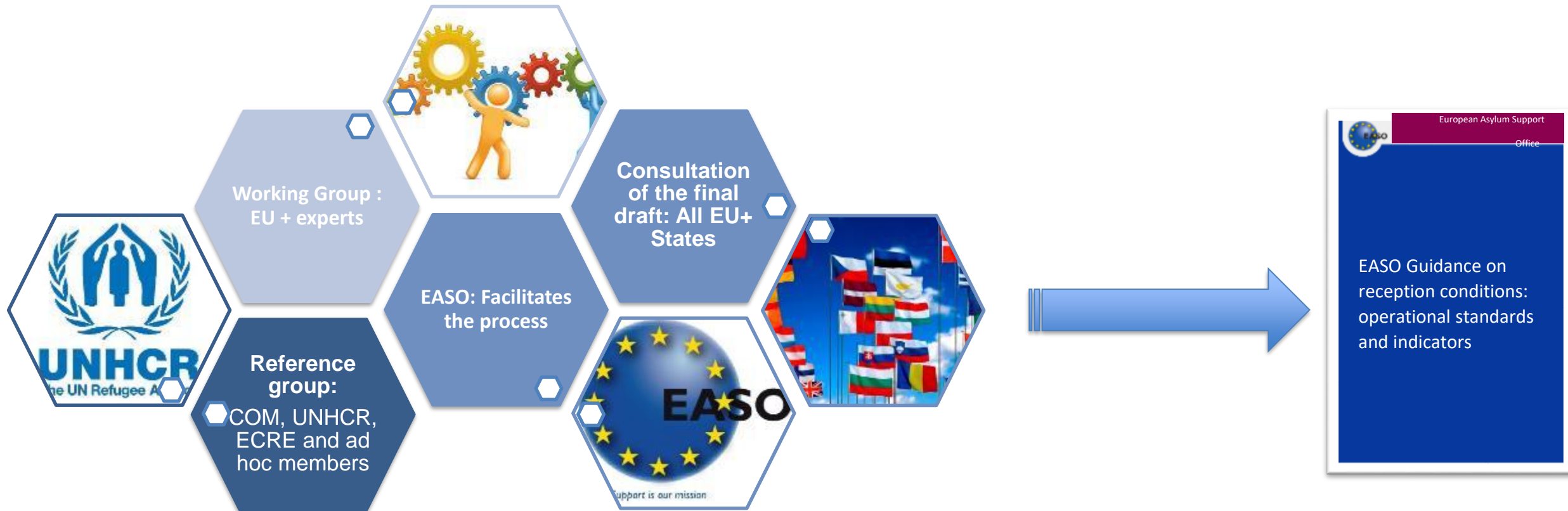


In collaboration with EPRA: Exchange programme

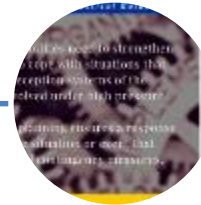
- Launched in 2018
- « Critical Friend Review » methodology: critical feedback on the practice(s) observed
- 3 to 4 member states visiting another one
- Visit of Belgium, Netherlands and Slovakia to Czech Republic (May 2018)
- Visit of Czech Republic, France, Netherlands and Slovakia to Belgium (May 2018)



Development of practical tools



Targeting practitioners on the ground: support in daily work



Promoting **commonly agreed** standards and good practices



Practical and **user friendly**



different forms depending on the needs: checklists, brief guidance, templates, posters, pocket books, fully interactive web platform and outcome report, etc.



Publicly Accessible



<https://www.easo.europa.eu/practical-tools>

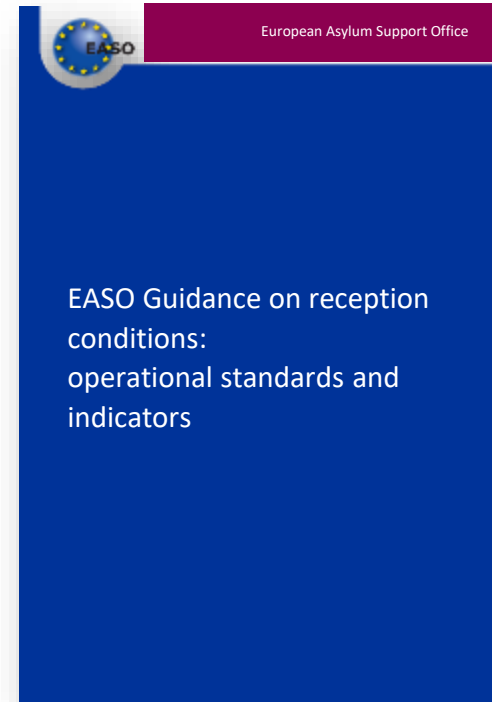
EASO Guidance on reception conditions: operational standards and indicators

- Working group: AT, BE, CZ, DE, ES, HR, NL, PL, SE
- Reference group: COM, UNHCR, FRA

Objective

To support Member States in the implementation of key provisions of the RCD while ensuring an adequate standard of living for all applicants for international protection, including those with special reception needs.

Adopted by the EASO Management Board during its 22nd Meeting on 22nd September 2016.



Suggestions/remarks from EU+ States on future development of guidance on emergency standards/contingency planning

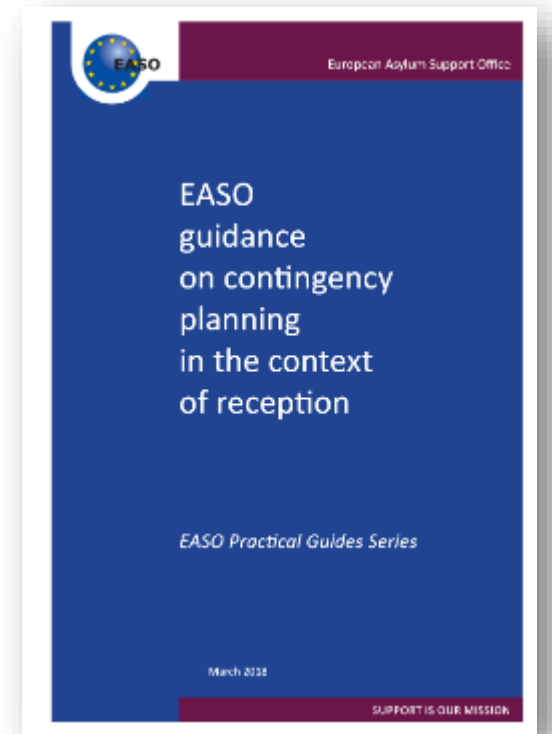
EASO Guidance on contingency planning in the context of reception

- Working group: BE, EL, NL, NO, PL, SE
- Reference group: COM, UNHCR, Red Cross

Objective

To serve as an **aid to the detailed planning and management** of the various actors in a high-influx situation and to facilitate early action against a potentially serious situation.

To help **manage future uncertainty by developing responses in advance** when there is a risk or probability that a high-influx situation may occur. It will help reception authorities to anticipate and solve problems that arise in **situations that require an immediate response.**



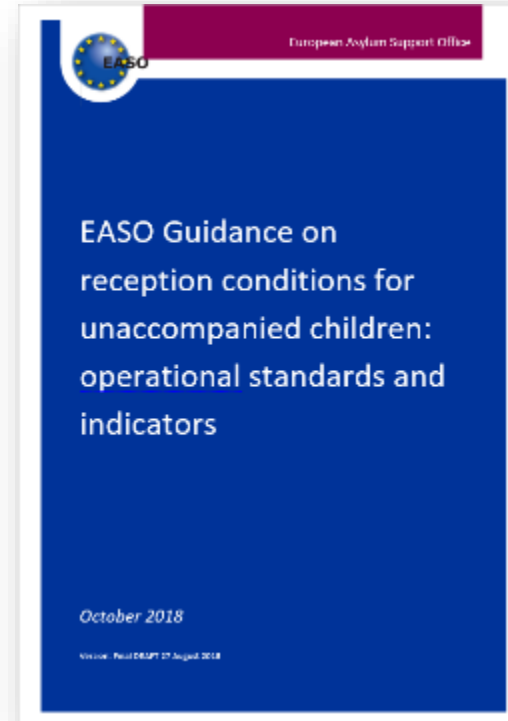
EASO Guidance on reception conditions of unaccompanied children

- Working group: BE, BG, DE, FI, NL, RO, SE
- Reference group: COM, FRA, UNHCR, IOM, ECRE

Objective

to support EU+ States in the implementation of key provisions of the RCD **while ensuring an adequate standard of living for unaccompanied children that takes into account their special reception needs.**

Presented for adoption to the EASO Management Board during its next meeting on 26 September 2018



Support to operations in 2018



- Bosnia
- Bulgaria
- Cyprus
- Greece
- Serbia

- FYROM
- Turkey
- Serbia

Need
assessment
visits

Support for
contingency
planning

Development
of ad-hoc
tools

Training on
reception &
study visits

- Greece

- Bulgaria
- Cyprus
- Italy
- Greece

