

Input by civil society to the 2022 Asylum Report

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

D e a r

C o l l e a g u e s ,

The production of the *Asylum Report 2022* is currently underway. The annual [Asylum Report series](#) present a comprehensive overview of developments in the field of asylum at the regional and national levels.

The report includes information and perspectives from various stakeholders, including experts from EU+ countries, civil society organisations, UNHCR and researchers. To this end, we invite you, our partners from civil society, academia and research institutions, to share with us your reporting on developments in asylum law, policy or practice in 2021 (and early 2022) by topic as presented in the online survey.

Please note that the Asylum Report does not seek to describe national systems in detail but rather to present key developments of the past year, including improvements and challenges which remain. Your input can cover practices of a specific EU+ country or the EU as a whole. You can complete all or only some of the sections.

All submissions are publicly accessible. For transparency, 2022 contributions will be published on the EUAA webpage. For reference, contributions to the 2021 Asylum Report by civil society organisations can be accessed [here](#), under 'Acknowledgements'. All contributions should be appropriately referenced. You may include links to supporting material, such as analytical studies, articles, reports, websites, press releases or position papers. If your organisation does not produce any publications, please make reference to other published materials, such as joint statements issued with other organisations. Some sources of information may be in a language other than English. In this case, please cite the original language and, if possible, provide one to two sentences describing the key messages in English.

The content of the Asylum Report is subject to terms of reference and volume limitations. Contributions from civil society organisations feed into EUAA's work in multiple ways and inform reports and analyses beyond the Asylum Report.

Your input matters to us and will be much appreciated!

*Please complete the online survey and submit your contribution to the 2022 Asylum Report by **Monday, 21 February 2022**.*

[Instructions](#)

Before completing the survey, please review the list of topics and types of information that should be included in your submission.

For each response, only include the following type of information:

- New developments and improvements in 2021 and new or remaining challenges; and
- Changes in policies or practices, transposition of legislation or institutional changes during 2021.

Please ensure that your responses remain within the scope of each section.

Contributions by topic

1. Access to territory and access to asylum procedures (including first arrival to territory and registration, arrival at the border, application of the non-refoulement principle, the right to first response (shelter, food, medical treatment) and issues regarding border guards)

2. Access to information and legal assistance (including counselling and representation)

3. Provision of interpretation services (e.g. introduction of innovative methods for interpretation, increase/decrease in the number of languages available, change in qualifications required for interpreters)

4. Dublin procedures (including the organisational framework, practical developments, suspension of transfers to selected countries, detention in the framework of Dublin procedures)

5. Special procedures (including border procedures, procedures in transit zones, accelerated procedures, admissibility procedures, prioritised procedures or any special procedure for selected caseloads)

6. Reception of applicants for international protection (including information on reception capacities – increase/decrease/stable, material reception conditions - housing, food, clothing and financial support, contingency planning in reception, access to the labour market and vocational training, medical care, schooling and education, residence and freedom of movement)

7. Detention of applicants for international protection (including detention capacity – increase /decrease/stable, practices regarding detention, grounds for detention, alternatives to detention, time limit for detention)

8. Procedures at first instance (including relevant changes in: the authority in charge, organisation of the process, interviews, evidence assessment, determination of international protection status, decisionmaking, timeframes, case management - including backlog management)

9. Procedures at second instance (including organisation of the process, hearings, written procedures, timeframes, case management - including backlog management)

10. Availability and use of country of origin information (including organisation, methodology, products, databases, fact-finding missions, cooperation between stakeholders)

11. Vulnerable applicants (including definitions, special reception facilities, identification mechanisms/referrals, procedural standards, provision of information, age assessment, legal guardianship and foster care for unaccompanied and separated children)

12. Content of protection (including access to social security, social assistance, healthcare, housing and other basic services; integration into the labour market; measures to enhance language skills; measures to improve attainment in schooling and/or the education system and/or vocational training)

13. Return of former applicants for international protection

Romania has deported more Afghans in 2021 than it received. Source of news:
<https://www.libertatea.ro/stiri/romania-a-deportat-in-2021-mai-multi-afgani-decat-a-primit-cate-cereri-de-azil-au-fost-aprobate-3707744>

In the first seven months of this year (2021), almost 2,800 asylum applications were registered from Afghan citizens, more than in the whole of last year, according to official data provided by the Inspectorate General for Immigration (IGI) at the request of Libertatea newspaper.

Of these, only 25 were approved, another 778 applications were rejected and the rest are still under consideration. Practically, since the beginning of the year, less than 1% of the Afghans who requested protection from the Romanian state received it. After analyzing the files submitted by the Afghans who arrived in Romania, the decisions were taken "in relation to the situation in the country of origin, prior to the current events", states the General Inspectorate for Immigration. Last year, about 2,400 Afghans applied for asylum in our country, out of which only 667 received protection from the Romanian state.

The deported Afghans "crossed the border illegally". The situation in Afghanistan has led Romania to consider taking in refugees fleeing their country for fear of the Taliban. After the Foreign Ministry in Bucharest said it was considering offering asylum to Afghans who have collaborated with the Romanian army for the past 20 years, the Supreme Council of National Defense met on Wednesday (August 25th 2021) and decided to send 200 troops to Afghanistan over the next six months to evacuate and relocate Afghan citizens. Until a final decision on the number of refugees that our country could receive, official figures show that, at least this year, Romania has deported more Afghans than it has received.

39 Afghan citizens were deported from Romania in 2021. These are Afghan citizens who did not receive a residence permit or whose right has not been extended, IGI explains. They crossed the border illegally, and when they were forcibly deported, they were not asylum seekers. Because they received no right of residence or any form of protection, the Afghans should have left the country within 15 days. IGI does not say whether or not it had information about the situation in Afghanistan. The deportations took place before July 8, when the Afghan Foreign Ministry asked the European Commission to suspend the return of Afghans from other states, according to the Inspectorate General for Immigration. However, the institution does not explain whether or not it had information or signals that the situation in Afghanistan will worsen after the withdrawal of NATO allies, so as to suspend in time the deportations of Afghan citizens from Romania. Asylum applications rejected en masse. Around 520 Afghan citizens have residence permits, 179 of them with some form of protection (refugee status or subsidiary protection), according to IGI. Courts often reject the appeals of Afghan citizens whose asylum applications were rejected by the IGI because they did not consider them well-founded, as Libertatea pointed out.

14. Resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes (including EU Joint Resettlement Programme, national resettlement programme (UNHCR), National Humanitarian Admission Programme, private sponsorship programmes/schemes and ad hoc special programmes)

15. Relocation (ad hoc, emergency relocation; developments in activities organised under national schemes or on a bilateral basis)

Government decision no 22 from March 8th (HOTĂRÂRE nr. 22 din 8 martie 2021) referring to the Asylum and Migration package:

The Romanian Senate draws attention and recommends to the European legislative initiator that the following observations regarding the migration package must be taken into account:

1. Romania has consistently adopted a position of balance and support for the principle of solidarity, but Romania has opposed the compulsory and automatic relocation, signaling a fundamental reserve on this issue, as solidarity cannot be expressed on the basis of indicators and calculation formulas that do not take into account the objective situation of each Member State;
2. The proposal to determine the Member States' quotas on the basis of population and gross domestic product is to the detriment of those who, although having a large population or a large gross domestic product, have a low history of asylum applications, consequently limited capacity to manage asylum applications, which could lead to national imbalances;
3. A mandatory border procedure can be implemented, but with a transitional period and European funding for the preparation of the necessary capacities.

Source: <https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/239946>

16. National jurisprudence on international protection in 2020 (please include a link to the relevant case law and/or submit cases to the [EUAA Case Law Database](#))

17. Other important developments in 2021

The Romanian government has included refugees and asylum-seekers in the national vaccination campaign:
<https://www.unhcr.org/ro/information-about-the-covid-19-vaccine>
<https://igi.mai.gov.ro/en/opportunity-for-vaccination/>

References and sources

18. Please provide links to references and sources and/or upload the related material in PDF format

19. Feedback or suggestions about the process or format for submissions to the Asylum Report

Please upload your file

The maximum file size is 1 MB

Contact details

* Name of organisation

Migrant Integration Center Brasov

Name and title of contact person

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I accept the provisions of the EUAA [Legal and Privacy Statements](#)

Useful links

[EASO Asylum Report 2021 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/easo-asylum-report-2021\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/easo-asylum-report-2021)

[Executive Summary -EASO Asylum Report 2021 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/executive-summary-asylum-report-2021\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/executive-summary-asylum-report-2021)

[Bibliography for the EASO Asylum Report 2021 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/EASO_Asylum_Report_2021-Bibliography.pdf\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/EASO_Asylum_Report_2021-Bibliography.pdf)

[Summary of legislative, institutional and policy developments in asylum in EU+ countries in 2019 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/easo-asylum-report-eu-developments.pdf\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/easo-asylum-report-eu-developments.pdf)

[National asylum developments database \(https://euaa.europa.eu/national-asylum-developments-database\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/national-asylum-developments-database)

[EASO Asylum Report 2021 Key Findings \(https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/key_findings.pdf\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/key_findings.pdf)

[EU+ and Country Data \(https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/europe-country-data-2020.pdf\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/europe-country-data-2020.pdf)

Background Documents

[Input by civil society to the 2022 Asylum Report.docx](#)

Contact

[Contact Form](#)