

# 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](#)

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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

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**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)**

### The Afghan Emergency

In August 2021, Italy received about 5,000 Afghans displaced due to the "Aquila Omnia" operation. Italy carried out the activities in response to this emergency through the governmental reception system and the support of the third sector associations, already involved in sheltering migrants and refugees.

The first reception was managed by the Ministry of Defense. Subsequently, the refugees were taken care of through the widespread reception circuit guaranteed by the governmental system of the SAI " Sistema accoglienza e integrazione (Reception and integration system)" (managed by the Ministry of the Interior and implemented by the Municipalities through third sector associations) and by the CAS " Centri Accoglienza Straordinaria (Extraordinary Reception Centers)"(managed by the prefectures and third sector associations), although there were not enough places available to guarantee the reception of such a large number.

This led the Central Service to start to enlarge, through the municipalities, the SAI meant for the Afghan families. (1)

In October 2021 the call for this enlargement was published to respond adequately and coherently to the emergency and to implement integration paths for families with minors and foreign unaccompanied minors (UAMs), providing for an increase in the Fondo Nazionale per le Politiche ed i Servizi dell'Asilo (National Fund for Asylum Policies and Services) equal to 11,335,320 Euros for the year 2021 and 44,971,650 Euros for each of the years 2022 and 2023.

The enlargement decree provided for an increase of 3,000 places in the SAI network for families. The intention of the Government is to guarantee always more SAI enlargement compared to the other reception forms, as this guarantees widespread reception paths and more structured integration processes in line with the local welfare policies.

During 2022, the enlargement will be fully operational.

Notwithstanding the governmental reception, the third sector and voluntary sector associations have intensely contributed to supporting the management of the second reception phase in the parishes and in other opportunities offered by the voluntary associations.

In addition, many Regions and some private Foundations have offered resources for integration activities. After the first displacement, the flow of refugees from Afghanistan did not stop.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also activated an Afghanistan table close to the first displacement to coordinate with NGOs and other associations to continue monitoring the flow of arrivals.

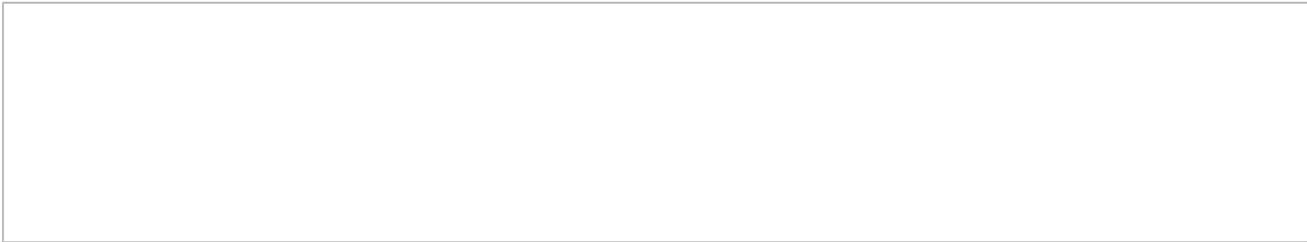
In particular, the start of the asylum procedures for Afghan refugees took place quickly.

### Humanitarian Corridors

To continue support activities for Afghan refugees, an agreement was signed in November 2021 between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior, IOM, UNHCR and other CSOs, e. g. Community of Sant 'Egidio, FCEI, Tavola Valdese, CEI, CARITAS, ARCI, INMP (2) to launch of humanitarian corridors for about 1200 places which are expected to start in the first half of 2022. (3)

Regarding interventions implemented through Don Bosco 2000 in Sicily, in the management of the SAI reception centers and the CAS (Extraordinary Reception Centers dependent on the Prefecture of Enna) for adults and minors, there have been no changes in 2021 with respect to the procedures for entry into Don Bosco 2000 centers and the request for asylum. The beneficiaries arrive in these centers upon disposition of institutional insertion, by Ministry and Prefecture.

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



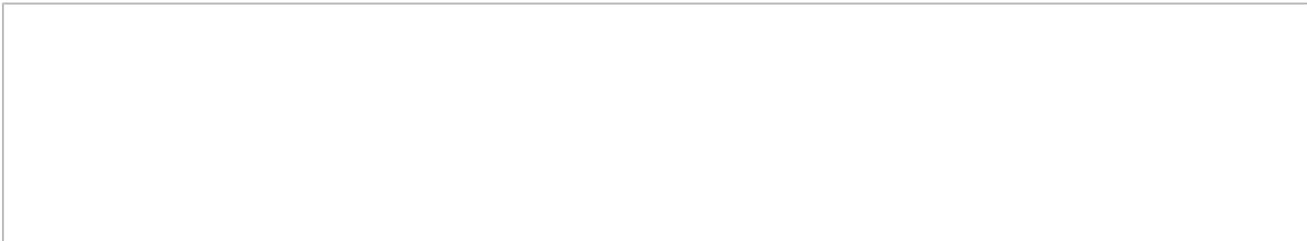
**3. Provision of interpretation services (e.g. introduction of innovative methods for interpretation, increase/decrease in the number of languages available, change in qualifications required for interpreters)**

During 2021, due to COVID and the changes in working methods that have taken place, the interpreting mode has been expanded to include distance interpreting, with training and informative moments in call. In Don Bosco 2000 structures the languages offer has increased with the introduction of the Bangla and Hindi due to the arrival in the community of a high percentage (around 75%) of Bengalis, adults and minors.

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

No Dublin procedures as in Don Bosco 2000 centers these are very rare.

**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)**

In 2021, Don Bosco 2000 received 80% of the time asylum seekers. Incoming flows increased compared to 2020 but were less stable. Many beneficiaries, especially Tunisians, remain at times in Don Bosco 2000 centers only 1 or 2 nights, preferring to leave the center arbitrarily to continue their journey independently. Therefore, this implies an increased instability in the guests' stay. Access to training and employment have been hindered by the 2020/2021 legislation that allows training and internships only to holders of international protection, leaving out asylum seekers, i.e. 70% of the beneficiaries in reception.

**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)**

The implementation decrees envisaged by Law 47/2017 as well as the one in support of voluntary guardians envisaged by the Budget Law of 2020 are still in standby.

The emergency and the pandemic management have worsened the pre-existing critical issues in the unaccompanied foreign minors' reception system (4): the level of first reception has been substantially replaced by the management of the quarantine period, the transition phase from first to second reception is particularly critical and complex as well as the transition to the age of majority is still insufficiently supported. The SAI is confirmed as a positive model, but according to the latest official data available, updated to September 2021, the number of places for foreign UAMs is 6,692 (5) , while the number of foreign minors present on our territory on 30 December 2021 was 12,284. (6)

There are, therefore, thousands of foreign UAMs outside the SAI system, who risk, in most cases, receiving inadequate reception in extraordinary reception centers or similar big centers.

Moreover, local authorities have declared difficulties in managing the reception activities and while waiting for places to become available in the SAI network, some municipalities (e.g. Genoa, Bologna, Modena) have placed foreign minors in hotel facilities. (8)

The challenge is to make the SAI system a key coordination point for the national and local reception system. In this regard, the announcement by the Minister of the Interior about the establishment of a table devoted to UAMs appears positive (9) . It is hoped that there will be a continuous and structured dialogue with the TAVOLO MINORI MIGRANTI (Table of migrant minors): also in 2021, this network of CSOs, active in many aspects relating to the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant minors, brought to the attention of institutions and of the public opinion the experience of a large part of the civil society working for years on these issues and relevant concerns. (10)

## **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)**

Referring to the activities implemented by Don Bosco 2000 in Sicily, there are no cases pursuant to art. 18. On the measures indicated, Don Bosco 2000 has just been awarded a project in co-planning with the Region of Sicily for the construction of an integrated Social Center in the city of Caltanissetta which has as its object the measures of interest, to enhance the services in the area in favour of required citizens. As this initiative has just started there are not yet any data on users.

## **13. Return of former applicants for international protection**

## **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)**

**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](#))**

<https://www.camera.it/temiap/documentazione/temi/pdf/1105104.pdf>

**17. Other important developments in 2021**

## References and sources

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

- (1) Ampliamento rete Sai, published in Gazzetta Ufficiale il decreto legge | RETESAI Ampliamento della rete SAI di 3000 posti categoria ordinari | Ministero dell'Interno
- (2) Istituto nazionale per la promozione della salute delle popolazioni migranti ed il contrasto delle malattie della povertà (INMP)
- (3) Firma del protocollo per i corridoi umanitari dall'Afghanistan – Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale, [https://www.interno.gov.it/sites/default/files/2021-11/protocollo\\_corridoi.pdf](https://www.interno.gov.it/sites/default/files/2021-11/protocollo_corridoi.pdf)
- (4) <https://www.cespi.it/sites/default/files/osservatori/allegati/rapporto-osservatorio-msna-2021-def-light.pdf>
- (5) <https://www.retesai.it/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numeri-SAI-SETTEMBRE-2021.pdf>
- (6) <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/temi-e-priorita/immigrazione/focus-on/minori-stranieri/Documents/Report-MSNA-mese-dicembre-2021-ENG.pdf>
- (7) <http://www.regioni.it/newsletter/n-4139/del-13-09-2021/minori-stranieri-non-accompagnati-chiesto-un-tavolo-interistituzionale-23149/>
- (8) [https://genova.repubblica.it/cronaca/2022/01/13/news/migranti\\_minori\\_non\\_accompagnati\\_tutti\\_via\\_dagli\\_alberghi\\_entro\\_due\\_settimane-333714438/](https://genova.repubblica.it/cronaca/2022/01/13/news/migranti_minori_non_accompagnati_tutti_via_dagli_alberghi_entro_due_settimane-333714438/)
- (9) <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/lamorgese-annuncia-prossima-apertura-tavolo-dedicato-minori-stranieri-non-accompagnati>
- (10) <https://www.salesianiperilsociale.it/tavolo-minori-migranti-raccomandazioni-per-la-protezione-e-laccoglienza-dei-minori-afgani/>

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

WE WOULD LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT THAT WE ARE SUBMITTING SINCE THE LAST TWO YEARS A JOINT SUBMISSION AS WE ARE ORGANIZATIONS OPERATING IN PARTNERSHIP AND NETWORK.

Please upload your file

The maximum file size is 1 MB

## Contact details

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### \* Name of organisation

- 1) VIS inputs in joint submission with Comitato per la promozione e protezione dei diritti umani, Don Bosco 2000, Salesiani per il Sociale
- 2) Comitato per la promozione e protezione dei diritti umani inputs in joint submission with VIS, Don Bosco 2000, Salesiani per il Sociale
- 3) Don Bosco 2000 inputs in joint submission with VIS, Comitato per la promozione e protezione dei diritti umani, Salesiani per il Sociale
- 4) Salesiani per il Sociale inputs in joint submission with VIS, Comitato per la promozione e protezione dei diritti umani, Don Bosco 2000

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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](#)

