

# Input by civil society organisations to the Asylum Report 2025

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

Dear Colleagues,

The production of the Asylum Report 2025 is currently underway. The annual [Asylum Report](#) presents an overview of developments in the field of international protection in Europe.

The report includes information and perspectives from various stakeholders, including experts from EU+ countries, civil society organisations, researchers and UNHCR. To this end, we invite you, our partners from civil society, academia and research institutions, to share your reporting on developments in asylum law, policies or practices in 2024 by topic as presented in the online survey (**'Part A' of the form**).

We also invite you to share with us any publications your organisation has produced throughout 2024 on issues related to asylum in EU+ countries (**'Part B' of the form**).

These may be reports, articles, recommendations to national authorities or EU institutions, open letters and analytical outputs.

Your input can cover information for a specific EU+ country or the EU as a whole. You can complete all or only some of the sections.

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.

All submissions are publicly accessible. For transparency, contributions will be published on the EUAA webpage and contributing organisations will be listed under the Acknowledgements of the report.

All contributions should be appropriately referenced. You may include links to supporting material, such as analytical studies, articles, reports, websites, press releases, position papers.

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.

***NB: This year's edition of the Asylum Report will be significantly revamped to achieve a leaner, more analytical report with streamlined thematic sections. The focus will be on key trends in the field of asylum rather than on individual developments. For this reason, information shared by***

**respondents to this call may be incorporated in the Asylum Report in a format different than in the past years.**

Your input matters to us and will be much appreciated!

**\*Please submit your contribution to the Asylum Report 2025 by Friday, 10 January 2025.\***

## Contact details

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\* Name of Organisation

Arca di Noè Società Cooperativa Sociale

Name and title of contact person

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

## General observations

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**Before sharing information by thematic area, please provide your general observations on asylum developments as indicated in the following three fields:**

What areas would you highlight where important developments took place in the country/countries you cover?

What are the areas, where only few or no developments took place?

Would you have any observations to share specifically about the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum in the national context of the country/ countries you cover?

## **PART A: Contributions by topic**

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**Please share your reporting on developments in asylum law, policies or practices in 2024 by topic. Kindly make sure that you provide information on:**

- New developments and improvements in 2024 and new or remaining challenges;
- Changes in legislation, policies or practices, or institutional changes during 2024.

### **1. Access to territory and access to the asylum procedure (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)**

There was a significant decrease in the number of migrants arriving on the Italian shores compared to previous years (both 2022 and 2023). According to data provided by the Ministry of the Interior, the number of people arriving from the 1st of January to the 31st of December 2024 amounted to 66.317. In comparison, in the same period in 2023, the figure recorded was 157.651 people and 105.131 in 2022. Although the distribution criteria do not always seem to be clear, between the 1st of January and the 31st of December 2024, 8.923 of these people were transferred to reception centres located in the Emilia-Romagna Region.

(Source <http://www.libertaciviliimmigrazione.dlci.interno.gov.it/documentazione/statistica/cruscotto-statistico-giornaliero>).

### **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)**

On 4 March 2024, the Italian framework governing reception facilities (Schema Capitolato d'Appalto) were published in accordance with the provisions of Law 50/2023. This law redefined the services to be provided in different types of reception centres. In the first-line reception centres for asylum applicants, as stipulated in Articles 9 and 11 of Legislative Decree No. 142/2015, the following services must be guaranteed: material reception, healthcare, social assistance, and cultural-linguistic mediation. Consequently, services such as psychological support, Italian language courses, legal and territorial orientation, and related professional roles, were excluded.

However, Article 18 of the European Directive 2024/1346 stresses the importance of uniformly ensuring access to specific services for asylum seekers. These include language courses, civic education, and vocational training to facilitate job search and promote applicants' autonomy.

Although the Directive will come into effect from June 2026, several articles also emphasize the obligation of Member States to safeguard the physical and mental health of asylum seekers. This involves assessing the specific needs of each applicant and, if necessary, transferring him or her to reception facilities better suited to his or her specific needs. To this end, Member States must ensure that staff assigned to assess the specific needs of asylum seekers are adequately and consistently trained to identify signs of vulnerability. In addition, these staff members must be able to provide detailed information about identified needs, recommended measures, and competent authorities charged with addressing them. Eliminating the role of the psychologist carries significant risks. It may hinder compliance with these obligations, particularly in identifying and addressing the special needs of vulnerable individuals and compromise the transition of such individuals into second-line reception facilities. Similarly, the absence of legal and territorial orientation service undermines the ability of asylum seekers to fully access information about their rights and obligations under their legal status, as required by Directive 2013/33/EU.

The Italian framework governing reception facilities mentioned above introduces the role of the social operator to solve the difficulties some Prefectures have encountered in hiring social assistants. However, the

qualifications required and the activities to be performed by this role are not clearly defined, leaving the functions of the position vague and insufficiently detailed. This lack of clarity has led to significant discrepancies in service delivery since the implementation of the new framework. Differences in interpretation by managing bodies have led to a lack of uniformity in service delivery, creating different standards between and within regions.

(Sources: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1346/oj>;  
DECRETO-LEGGE 10 marzo 2023, n. 20 - Normattiva;  
LEGGE 5 maggio 2023, n. 50 - Normattiva;  
DECRETO LEGISLATIVO 18 agosto 2015, n. 142 - Normattiva).

**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. Issues of statelessness in the context of asylum (including identification and registration)**

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

According to European Directive 2024/1346, Member States are required to assess the presence of asylum seekers with special reception needs. The directive particularly stresses the importance of “taking into account the specific needs of asylum seekers who have been victims of sexual or gender-based violence, especially women, by ensuring that they have access, at all stages of the international protection procedure, to health and legal assistance, as well as appropriate post-trauma support and psychosocial services.”

On 4 March 2024, the Italian framework governing reception facilities (Schema Capitolato d’Appalto) was published, as required by national legislation, particularly Law 50/2023. However, as specified in section 5. Special procedures, those aimed at first reception centres for asylum applicants, do not include provisions for psychological support services or related professional roles. This omission poses significant challenges to the early detection of vulnerability signals and the subsequent referral to specialised services, limiting access to tailored pathways that address specific needs.

(Sources: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1346/oj>;  
LEGGE 5 maggio 2023, n. 50 - Normattiva).

**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**

**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. National jurisprudence on international protection in 2024 (please include a link to the relevant case law and/or submit cases to the [EUAA Case Law Database](#))**

**16. Other important developments in 2024**

In 2024, a significant development was the protocol signed between the Italian Government and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania to strengthen cooperation on migration. The protocol was signed in Rome on the 6th of November 2023 and ratified by Law No. 14 on 21 February 2024. Through this protocol, the Albanian Government has made areas available to the Italian government for the establishment of facilities for migrants, with Italy retaining full management authority. The first area is for facilities that manage entry procedures, while the second includes facilities dedicated to assessing eligibility for international protection and the repatriation of migrants who are not authorized to enter or remain in Italy. The following structures have been established:

A) A designated facility for entry procedures, equivalent to those provided for in Article 10-ter, of Legislative Decree No. 286/1998. This facility receives migrants brought in pursuant to Article 1 of Law No. 14/2024, and is intended exclusively for health screenings, identification, and collection of asylum applications.

B) A facility designated for the assessment of eligibility for international protection, equivalent to those provided for in Article 10-ter, of Legislative Decree No. 286/1998.

C) A facility equivalent to the return and repatriation centres referred to in Article 14 of Legislative Decree No. 286/1998 intended for the performance of repatriation procedures under Legislative Decree No. 286 /1998 and No. 142/2015.

(Source: <https://temi.camera.it/leg19/provvedimento/protocollo-italia-albania-in-materia-migratoria.html>; <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/accordo-italia-albania-pubblicato-lavviso-laffidamento-dei-servizi-accoglienza-funzionamento-e-gestione-dei-centri>).

## **PART B: Publications**

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**1. If available online, please provide links to relevant publications produced by your organisation in 2024**

**2. If not available online, please share your publications with us at: [Asylum.Report@euaa.europa.eu](mailto:Asylum.Report@euaa.europa.eu) or upload your file using the functionality below (max. file size 1MB).**

Please upload your file

The maximum file size is 1 MB

3. For publications that due to copyright issues cannot be easily shared, please provide references using the table below.

	Title of publication	Name of author	Publisher/Organisation	Date
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				



## **Useful links**

[EUAA Asylum Report 2024 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2024\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2024)

[Executive Summary -Asylum Report 2024 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2024/executive-summary\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2024/executive-summary)

[Sources on Asylum 2024 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/publications/sources-asylum-2024\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/publications/sources-asylum-2024)

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

[International Protection in Europe: 2023 in Review \(https://euaa.europa.eu/international-protection-europe-2023-review\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/international-protection-europe-2023-review)

## **Background Documents**

[Word template to submit input](#)

## **Contact**

[Contact Form](#)