

Input by civil society organisations to the Asylum Report 2026

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Dear Colleagues,

The production of the Asylum Report 2026 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 2025 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 2025 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: Similarly to last year, this year's edition of the Asylum Report will be leaner and more analytical, 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. It will also feature prominently as info boxes in the [country overviews](#).

Your input matters to us and will be much appreciated!

Please submit your contribution to the Asylum Report 2026 by Friday, 9 January 2026.

Contact details

* Name of organisation

Civil Rights Project Sisak

Name and title of contact person

Milana Kreća, President

* Email

pgp-sisak@crpsisak.hr

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

General observations

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?

It is necessary to ensure a fairer asylum system by including steps to improve the efficiency and fairness of the international protection system. The Republic of Croatia must focus on the development of integration policies /housing, learning the Croatian language, employment/ because integration policy represents one of the greatest challenges for Croatian society. It is also necessary to expand or reorganize reception capacities or implement new models for managing reception facilities. Special attention should be paid to the issue of statelessness, which has not been resolved in the Republic of Croatia. Entering Stateless in the citizenship section, or in the asylum seeker's card or the asylum seeker's identity card, does not formally and legally achieve a positive effect on the statelessness status itself. This means that statelessness in itself does not take away the rights that asylum brings — they are exercised primarily through the status of international protection, and not because of the status of statelessness.

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

Access to the asylum procedure is still difficult. As we mentioned in point 1 of Part A, there is a lack of clear information and language support for persons wishing to seek international protection, and the problem is particularly pronounced at the external border of the EU (towards Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia).

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?

No.

PART A: Contributions by topic

Please share your reporting on developments in asylum law, policies or practices in 2025 by topic. Kindly make sure that you provide information on:

- New developments and improvements in 2025 and new or remaining challenges;
- Changes in legislation, policies or practices, or institutional changes during 2025.

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)

We do not have direct information, i.e. knowledge about access to the territory of the Republic of Croatia and access to the asylum procedure. However, we do have knowledge about it through the cooperative organization Solidarityline, which reports on a weekly basis to the competent public bodies of the Ministry of the Interior, the National Coordination Center for Border Surveillance, Frontex, the Border Service, Reception Centers for Foreigners, the Operational and Communication Center of the Police, and the Border Police Stations /areas of Dvor, Slunj, Cetingrad, Gvozd, Vojnić/, the Human Rights Council and other competent bodies from the Office of the Ombudsman, as well as the executive and representative authorities in the Republic of Croatia and political parties. It calls for humane and responsible treatment in accordance with international Conventions and a responsible approach to the asylum system for persons who are in difficult weather conditions, hypothermia, hunger and illness. These are groups of people from 15 and up, of different age groups, including children, chronically ill and pregnant women for whom the above poses a serious risk to their health and life. During December, the majority of people were from Palestine, which for Croatia consequently means an increased number of stateless people, as Croatia has not recognized the statehood of Palestine.

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

We do not have direct information about access to information and legal assistance at the borders. However, the association CRP Sisak is on the list of authorized providers of free legal aid in the procedure of international protection, MUP, and in 2025. we had only 2 representations after a negative decision on the right to asylum. Competent Police Stations or Reception Centers directly deliver lists of authorized providers of free legal aid to asylum seekers, enabling them to complete the three. We emphasize that during these procedures we have good cooperation with the Service for International Protection or the Reception Center for Foreigners in Ježevo in the form of official communication, delivery of additional information. The source is the practice of CRP Sisak.

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)

We do not accept applicants for international protection as an association that before the Covid pandemic had access to the Reception Center for International Protection Seekers in Zagreb, through the regular coordination of all associations involved in asylum procedures. According to information, the capacity of the Reception Center in Zagreb has increased, and one part has been renovated, but the influx of asylum seekers has also increased significantly. The facility for the detention of women in the Reception Center for Foreigners in Ježevo was also newly built.

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)

The reasons for the detention of applicants for international protection are, in principle, illegal stay in the Republic of Croatia, i.e. they were arrested in the territory of the Republic of Croatia while illegally staying and placed in a detention centre, where they express their intention to submit an application for international protection. Most of these are persons whose identity or citizenship needs to be verified or established, and the detention measure is applied due to repeated attempts to abandon the international protection procedure. Measures of restriction of freedom are imposed for a maximum of three months. The source is the practice of CRP Sisak.

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)

The issue of statelessness in the context of asylum is not regulated. Namely, the PGP Sisak has clients whose status is entered in the asylum seeker's ID card: stateless, without a special procedure for determining the status of statelessness by the International Protection Service. The question also arises as to what happens to statelessness when the rights that a person receives as an asylum seeker expire, and only if asylum is granted, is it not granted?!?

We must emphasize from the practice of the CRP Sisak that in most cases when, for example, a person was born and has resided his entire life in the Republic of Croatia, and does not possess the citizenship of any country, the procedure for determining statelessness is very long, demanding and complex. In addition to amending the legal regulations, the Republic of Croatia also needs a procedure for determining statelessness, as a single administrative procedure.

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)

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 2025 (please include a link to the relevant case law and/or submit cases to the [EUAA Case Law Database](#))

16. Other important developments in 2025

PART B: Publications

1. If available online, please provide links to relevant publications produced by your organisation in 2025.

2. If not available online, please share your publications with us at: 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				
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Useful links

[EUAA Asylum Report 2025 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2025\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2025)

[Executive Summary -Asylum Report 2025 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2025-executive-summary\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2025-executive-summary)

[Sources on Asylum 2025 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/publications/sources-asylum-2025\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/publications/sources-asylum-2025)

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

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

Background Documents

[Word template to submit input to the 2026 Asylum Report.docx](#)

Contact

[Contact Form](#)