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

ACCORD (Austrian Red Cross)

Name and title of contact person

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* Email

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☑ 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?

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

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)

[ ]

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. 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)

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

ACCORD is a department of the Austrian Red Cross and a widely respected centre of expertise for country of origin information (COI) in asylum proceedings. It is a trusted international partner for COI-related matters, particularly within the EU, and plays a key role in Austria's infrastructure in this area. ACCORD's COI portal, ecoi.net, forms the basis of Austria's COI database, staatendokumentation.at, and is recognised as the main global platform for COI.

ACCORD is implementing the ACUTE project, which began in spring 2025 with the aim of improving efficiency and consistency through methodologically and ethically sound approaches. A consortium of thirteen COI units from predominantly European countries is working to develop standards and guidelines for the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the COI field. The project is financed by AMIF funds from Austria's Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum. Participants also include the EUAA's COI sector, the UNHCR, the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), the International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges (IARMJ), and civil society organisations specialising in COI. The internationally recognised quality standards published by ACCORD in its COI Training Manual provide a foundation for technological and methodological developments. Further information on the ACUTE project can be found at https://www.ecoi.net/en/coi-resources/acute-artificial-intelligence-for-country-of-origin-information-understanding-technical-and-ethical-implications/.

At the beginning of 2026, ACCORD will publish a paper on the ethical considerations of using artificial intelligence in country of origin information.

To address the challenges posed by technological advancements and the implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum — which aims to reform the Common European Asylum System — we are striving for closer collaboration with the EUAA in the areas of COI portals and artificial intelligence applications. This cooperation will combine existing expertise to further develop COI portals in line with the needs of target groups. This will support EUAA Strategic Objective 1, which seeks to improve the alignment of asylum and reception systems based on shared protection standards. We encourage further work on a sustainable European solution for COI portals that utilises synergies and pursues convergence within the CEAS. Following Austria's example, a model of cooperation and division of labour among different stakeholders could be established as a European solution.

ACCORD has continued to discuss methodological developments in COI and has published two

methodological blog posts on its COI database, ecoi.net. One article addresses the role of civilians in conflict data, focusing on the insights provided by the UCDP and ACLED datasets. The second article considers how the peaks and troughs of the artificial intelligence hype cycle may influence COI work. Further information can be found at https://www.ecoi.net/en/blog/up-and-down-the-artificial-intelligence-hype-cycle and https://www. ecoi.net/en/blog/civilians-in-conflict-data.

ACCORD participated in the 5th Annual Meeting of the Judicial Experts Pool of the EUAA Court and Tribunal Sector, contributing to the discussion of the use of social media in COI and providing judges with tools and practical guidance.

PART B: Publications

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

- ecoi.net blog post, Up and down (and up?) the AI hype cycle, 26 September 2025, https://www.ecoi.net/en /blog/up-and-down-the-artificial-intelligence-hype-cycle
- Civilians in Conflict (Data), 25 March 2025, https://www.ecoi.net/en/blog/civilians-in-conflict-data
- ecoi.net, Artificial Intelligence for Country of Origin Information project description, https://www.ecoi.net/en/coi-resources/acute-artificial-intelligence-for-country-of-origin-information-understanding-technical-and-ethical-implications/

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				
2				
3				
4				
5				

Useful links

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

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

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

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)

Background Documents

Word template to submit input to the 2026 Asylum Report.docx

Contact

Contact Form