

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

Irish Refugee Council

Name and title of contact person

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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?

Reception conditions, Pact,

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)

The Department of Justice Home Affairs and Migration has been running a 'Pact Transition' with applicants from Georgia, Brazil and India since the summer 2025. In October 2025 this was expanded to all designated Safe Countries of Origin. Nationals from Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Egypt, Georgia, India, Kosovo, Malawi, Montenegro, Morocco, North Macedonia, Serbia, and South Africa now make their applications at Citywest Convention Centre. This does not (yet) apply to those countries that are accelerated but not designated as safe (e.g Nigeria).

- The Pact Transition is mimicking the border procedure which will come into effect with the Pact next June.
- This is being done under current legislation (so without e.g. the restrictions on movement, or the fundamental rights monitoring mechanism envisaged in the Pact. These will come into effect in June under the new legislation).
- First instance (IPO), appeal (IPAT) and return (deportation) decisions are being made within 12 weeks for this cohort. Some applicants are going from date of application to final negative decision and deportation order in under 2 months.
- We understand that all the above applicants, including single men, are being offered accommodation on arrival (likely to be in Citywest for many).
- IPO announcement here: <https://www.ipa.gov.ie/en/ipa/pages/whatsnew>

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)

Newly arrived single men (who are not safe country applicants) continue to not be offered accommodation on arrival. Typically, men spend 1-2 nights sleeping rough before the State offers them accommodation. Men are required to demonstrate their need for accommodation by sleeping rough despite the existence of 3500 free beds within the reception system. See: [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

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)

In 2025 (January to August) 15 people were brought before the courts under s.11 Immigration Act, failing to produce a passport on arrival in the State. This compares with approx. 150 in 2024. A request to apply for international protection does not protect a person from prosecution. Figures from FOIs from the courts service.

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)

Various changes announced on 26 of November:

- changes to legislation will ensure that Family Reunification for those granted International Protection status will only be granted in cases where it can be shown they have sufficient resources to support family members
- residents of international protection accommodation in employment to make a financial contribution towards their accommodation.
- additional powers to revoke refugee status where a person is found to be a danger to the security of the state or has been convicted of a serious crime
- residency requirements for people granted International Protection to rise from three years from date of lodging asylum application to five years from date status is granted before they can apply for citizenship- brought into effect on 8 December 2025

<https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-justice-home-affairs-and-migration/press-releases/minister-jim-ocallaghan-receives-government-approval-to-strengthen-migration-legislation-and-introduce-new-rules-on-asylum-and-citizenship-minister-jim-ocallaghan-and-minister-colt-brophy-publishes-family-reunification-review/>

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](#))

The Court of Justice of the European Union, in a decision, said that States can be held accountable when they break laws which were intended to protect individuals' rights, even when there is an unexpected increase in the numbers of protection applications and existing accommodation capacity is exhausted. The decision follows a preliminary reference from the High Court made in December 2023. CJEU press release: <https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2025-08/cp250102en.pdf>

The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission is appealing the overturning of the decision against the State by the Court of Appeal. The case concerned the State's obligation to provide asylum seekers with accommodation. In the initial case against the State in August 2024, the High Court ruled that the State had breached the human rights of 2,807 single male International Protection (IP) applicants by failing to provide accommodation for them. <https://www.thejournal.ie/asylum-seeker-supreme-court-case-6820407-Sep2025/>

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				
2				
3				
4				
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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](#)