



# Annual Work Plan 2026

## EUAA Consultative Forum

### 1. Introduction and Background

The Consultative Forum (CF) is the Agency's civil society platform. [Management Board Decision No 111](#) establishes the CF under the EUAA in line with Article 50 of the EUAA Regulation and sets out the CF composition and conditions for transmitting information thereto. The CF currently includes 124 members<sup>1</sup> whilst the call for expression of interest to join the CF remains open indefinitely.

In accordance with the EUAA Regulation, the CF has established its own [working methods](#). In line with the working methods, the main activities of the CF include meetings, electronic consultations on key Agency documents including the development of the European asylum curriculum as well as the provision of advice to the Executive Director and the Management Board.

When it comes to the planning of the CF's work, Article 11 of the working methods foresees that:

*“The Chair, with the support of the Consultative Forum Secretariat, shall draft an annual work plan setting out the planned activities for the Consultative Forum in a given calendar year. The work plan shall be drafted on a cooperative basis, considering the input and feedback from the Consultative Forum members as well as relevant Agency staff. It shall also take due account of the budget that has been made available to the Consultative Forum for a given year. The annual work plan may be presented to the Management Board and can be made public thereafter. The annual work plan remains a living document and may be adjusted according to emerging/changing priorities and needs”.*

This document sets out the annual work plan for the CF in 2026. It reflects priorities and activities that have jointly been identified by the CF members and the Agency and it will remain flexible for adjustments. In addition to the outlined priorities and activities, the CF can also provide advice at its own initiative.

The rest of this annual work plan includes the following:

- **Section 2** provides an overview of the priority areas of work for the CF in 2026,
- **Section 3** provides a description of the CF activities that are foreseen per priority area of work,
- **Section 4** presents a calendar overview of all CF activities planned for 2026 along a quarterly chronological timeline, and
- **Section 5** specifies the format of the planned meetings in 2026.

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<sup>1</sup> Information updated as of 9 February 2026 - the full list of members can be found on <https://euaa.europa.eu/partners/civil-society-and-consultative-forum>.





## 2. Priority Areas of Work for the Consultative Forum in 2026

The CF intends to prioritise a number of activities for 2026, in line with its obligations under the EUAA Regulation, Management Board Decision No 111, and the CF Working Methods. These priorities also reflect CF members’ interests, as well as the Agency’s needs and strategic priorities.

The priority areas of work for the CF in 2026 are:

- Planning of the Agency’s activities
- The Agency’s fundamental rights framework and cooperation with the FRO
- Training
- Information and analysis activities
- Country of Origin Information
- Vulnerability
- Monitoring mechanism
- Implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum

These priority areas will be addressed through a combination of activities, including meetings, electronic consultations, and the provision of advice/recommendations.

In addition, the CF aims to engage in more regular exchanges with the Agency on a range of additional topics falling within the Agency’s mandate. These exchanges will take place through “CF dialogues” which will address – in addition to the above priority areas:

- Quality assurance for asylum procedures
- Reception
- Digitalisation: including the evolving role of technologies and data protection in the asylum context

The table below sets out the different areas of work and outlines the planned activities and consultations including an indicative timeline.

*Table 1: overview of planned activities for the CF in 2026*

Area of work	Activity/document	Format of consultation	Timeline
<b>Planning of the Agency’s activities</b>	SPD 2027-2029	Written consultation	Q1
<b>Fundamental Rights framework and cooperation with the FRO</b>	Regular exchanges with the FRO	Regular meetings	Throughout 2026
<b>Training</b>	Relevant training modules of the	Participation of CF Chair in annual	TRG meeting: Q1



	European Asylum Curriculum	Training Reference Group Meeting and written consultations	Written consultations: throughout 2026
<b>Information and Analysis activities</b>	Asylum Report: feedback to EUAA & the Management Board  Information session on the Database on International Protection	Meeting and written consultation  Online meeting	Asylum Report: Q2/Q4 2026  Meeting DIP: Q3-Q4
<b>Country of Origin Information</b>	Meetings and activities of the thematic group	Two meetings	Q2 and Q4 2026
<b>Vulnerability</b>	Meetings and activities of the thematic group	Two meetings	Q2 and Q4 2026
<b>Monitoring</b>	CF Dialogues	CF Dialogues	Q4 2026
<b>Implementation of the Pact</b>	Discussion during the CF plenary meeting or in a dedicated CF dialogue	Dedicated session during the Plenary meeting or in a dedicated CF dialogue	Q4 2026
<b>Other (quality assurance for procedures, reception, and digitalisation)</b>	CF Dialogues	CF Dialogues	Throughout the year

### 3. Brief description of the planned CF activities

The sections below provide further details on the envisaged CF activities for 2026, divided per area of work.

#### 3.1 Planning of the Agency's activities

Article 50 of the EUAA Regulation stipulates that the CF shall “make suggestions to the Management Board on the annual and multi-annual programming of the Agency”. Each year, the Agency prepares a Single Programming Document (SPD) which provides multi-annual programming and annual planning of activities and resources.



The draft SPD for 2027-2029, draft Work Plan 2027 and Draft Budget 2027 have been shared with the CF for their feedback in January 2026. The Chair is collecting feedback from individual members before consolidating and sharing the feedback, on behalf of the Forum, with the Agency and Management Board by mid-March 2026.

### 3.2 Fundamental Rights Framework and cooperation with the FRO

The Agency has reinforced its fundamental rights framework with the appointment of a Fundamental Rights Officer, the development and adoption of a Fundamental Rights Strategy, establishment of the complaints mechanism as well as the development of a revised Code of Conduct for experts in asylum support teams.

The CF has followed these developments and, in accordance with Article 50 (6), the CF has been consulted on the development and adoption of the Fundamental Rights Strategy and Code of Conduct and will continue to be consulted on their implementation.

The [Fundamental Rights Strategy](#) is implemented through annual fundamental rights action plans adopted by the Agency. The CF would welcome being informed of these annual action plans and would appreciate receiving regular updates on the progress of their implementation.

The CF has also been consulted on the establishment of the [complaints mechanism](#), which was adopted in May 2024. In line with the EUAA Regulation, the FRO is now responsible for implementing it. In 2026, the FRO plans to organise country-specific online meetings with the CF with the objective to strengthen CF members' understanding of the EUAA complaints mechanism. An introductory meeting is planned for February 2026, followed by country-specific meetings tentatively scheduled between April and October 2026.

In line with the EUAA Regulation and the CF working methods, the FRO and the CF will further continue to closely cooperate through FRO's participation in CF meetings and/or through regular exchanges and dedicated meetings.

In the context of the FRO's visits to EUAA operational activities, the FRO will continue to seek the CF's input in preparation of such visits by organising dedicated meetings during which relevant CF members can provide their field expertise and knowledge.

### 3.3 Training

As per the EUAA Regulation, the CF shall be consulted on the development of the European Asylum Curriculum (EAC). Similar to previous years, the CF Chair is invited to participate in the annual meeting of the Training Reference Group (TRG) which will take place in Q1 2026. The main aim of the TRG meeting is for the Agency to present an update on its training activities and explain the planning for training development for the year, including how the Agency intends to involve the CF members. A call for consultation on the training modules planned for 2026 will be launched after the TRG meeting and this will provide the possibility to CF



members to be consulted and actively contribute to the development of the training modules relevant to their expertise.

Below is an overview of the planning of training developments which will be shared with the Consultative Forum via calls for expressions of interest, including an approximate timeline<sup>2</sup>.

Training module	Time-line for the launch of expressions of interest
Best interest of the child	February 2026
Age Assessment	February 2026
Vulnerability assessment	December 2026
Managing age assessment	December 2026
Withdrawal of international protection	December 2026

### 3.4 Information & Analysis

#### Asylum Report

Every year, the Agency produces an **Asylum Report** which provides a comprehensive overview of developments in the field of asylum at the European and national levels. The report includes information and perspectives from various stakeholders, including from civil society organisations who are an important source and contributor to the report.

A call for input from CF members was already launched in November 2025 with a deadline to provide input by 9 January 2026.

Following the publication of the report in June 2026, the Agency stands ready to organise a meeting to present the key findings of the report. Similar to previous years, a survey will then be launched to collect the feedback from CF members on the Asylum Report which the CF Chair will consolidate and present to the Management Board during the Management Board meeting at the end of November 2026.

#### Database on International Protection

The Database on International Protection (DIP) is a publicly accessible platform providing detailed information on asylum and reception systems across EU+ countries<sup>3</sup>. It builds on the former Information and Documentation System, which was accessible only to registered users. In line with the EUAA Regulation requirement to include “publicly accessible parts”, the Agency has operationalised this obligation through the “EUAA Database on International Protection in Europe”. The CF contributed to the development process by participating in an information session and a survey in 2024.

<sup>2</sup> The indicated time refers to when the calls for expressions of interest will be launched.

<sup>3</sup> EU Member States, plus Iceland, Norway and Switzerland.



The first version of the DIP was launched in October 2025 and is now publicly available. The Agency plans to carry out a promotion campaign and proposes to present the DIP to the CF members during an information session, inviting them to provide feedback on future functionalities.

### **Other activities related to information & analysis**

The CF invites the Agency to organise information sessions on other relevant analytical outputs, as relevant<sup>4</sup>. The CF also remains committed to provide updates to the [Who-is-who Civil Society](#) mapping exercise.

## **3.5 CF thematic consultation group on Country of Origin Information**

The CF will remain closely involved in the Agency's work and activities on Country of Origin Information (COI) through the work of the CF thematic consultation group on COI which currently includes 12 members. In line with the working methods for the CF group on COI, the group will meet on a bi-annual basis and aims to maintain an open and transparent dialogue on matters related to COI. Group members may share their input and expertise on COI and can provide feedback on relevant COI activities and products of the Agency. The group may also provide recommendations on COI to the Executive Director and the Management Board in accordance with the CF's working methods.

At the thematic consultation group meeting held on 16 October 2025, the group members, led by Ms Fatima Ali from Asylos who acts as the thematic rapporteur of the CF group on COI, discussed the planning of their activities in 2026. The group intends to organise regular exchanges on a continued, flexible basis – when necessary, as developments may arise. The group will continue to discuss the use of Artificial Intelligence for COI purposes and suggests organising a meeting linked to the ACUTE project<sup>5</sup>. In addition, the group welcomes strengthening links with the CF Group on Persons in a Vulnerable Situation, with a proposal to organise an initial meeting involving members of both groups in early 2026 to explore mutual interests and opportunities for collaboration.

## **3.6 CF thematic consultation group on persons in a vulnerable situation**

In line with the working methods for the CF group on Persons in a Vulnerable Situation, the group will meet at least once per year and aims at maintaining a close dialogue on issues, challenges and good practices in dealing with persons in a vulnerable situation. At the request of the Agency, group members may be invited to provide input to relevant tools/guides. The group may also, on its own initiative or at the request of the Agency, provide advice to the ED and MB on matters related to vulnerability.

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<sup>4</sup> For example on the [Comparative Overview of Legal Assistance and Representation in the Asylum Procedure in the EU+ countries](#) (15 December 2025).

<sup>5</sup> “Artificial Intelligence for COI: Understanding Technical and Ethical Implications”, led by ACCORD. The project was launched in May 2025, and explores the impact of AI on Country of Origin Information work.



In the last two years, the group has focused its work on detention and the impact of the Screening Regulation on persons in a vulnerable situation and elected two thematic rapporteurs to take these priority areas of work forward: Mr Rubén Romero Masegosa from Cepaim leads the work of the group on screening, whilst Mr Marc Tilley from Mission Lifeline leads the work on detention.

At the consultation group meeting held on 16 October 2025, the group members discussed their priority areas of work and planned activities for 2026. The group expressed its intention to continue exchanges on screening and detention, while several members also highlighted an interest in addressing additional topics, in particular those related to minors and victims of trafficking.

Members were invited to share with the Agency and the Management Board any relevant information on the implementation of the CEAS in their respective Member States, with particular attention to the situation of vulnerable persons, and to share relevant findings with the Agency and the EUAA Management Board. Members also welcomed enhanced coordination with the CF group on COI, and closer collaboration with the EUAA Vulnerability Expert Network (VEN).

### 3.8 EUAA Monitoring mechanism

In accordance with Article 14 of the EUAA Regulation, the Agency will conduct monitoring of the operational and technical application of the CEAS. The methodology for the Monitoring mechanism was adopted by the Management Board in March 2024 alongside the Multiannual Monitoring Programme 2026 – 2030 and pilot phase. As part of the pilot phase of the EUAA monitoring mechanism, the Agency conducted two pilot exercises in Estonia and the Netherlands in 2025.

The CF exchanged information with the Agency on the monitoring mechanism during the CF Plenary Meeting in October 2025. In 2026, the CF wishes to be kept informed of developments and the further roll-out of the monitoring mechanism. It is proposed to discuss monitoring during one of the CF Dialogues and/or during the CF Plenary Meeting, following the adoption of the revised methodology by the EUAA Management Board, expected in June 2026.

### 3.7 Implementation of the Pact

On 12 June 2026, the legislative instruments of the Pact on Migration and Asylum will enter into application, thereby significantly changing the EU legislative framework on asylum. The EUAA continues to implement the EUAA Pact Programme and is developing and revising relevant support tools to assist Member States with the implementation of the Pact.

The CF continues to have an interest in being updated on progress of the implementation of the EUAA Pact Programme, channelling relevant expertise, where relevant.



It is proposed to discuss progress on the EUAA Pact Programme during one of the CF dialogue meetings and/or during the CF Plenary Meeting.

### 3.9 CF Dialogues

In 2026, the CF will continue one of the new activities introduced in December 2025, namely ‘CF Dialogues’. These meetings are earmarked to take place on the last Monday of each month. The purpose of these meetings is to facilitate more regular exchanges among CF members and between the CF and the Agency. For each dialogue, one or more CF members will be invited to present his/her organisation and its activities. In addition, a representative of the EUAA will be invited to engage in a thematic discussion on relevant areas of the Agency’s work.

The table below provides an indicative overview of the planning for these dialogues and which topics are to be addressed. The participation of EUAA representatives in these meetings will be subject to the final scheduling of the meetings and their availability.

Month	Topic
February	<b>Implementation of the Pact:</b> Bridging the gap between legislation and the reality on the ground
March	<b>Digitalisation:</b> the role of new technologies and data protection in asylum
April	Capacity building: the new 2026 <b>training</b> curricula and professional standards
May	Quality assurance: tools and indicators for high-quality <b>asylum procedures</b>
June	Protecting <b>vulnerable persons:</b> identification and child rights’ safeguards
July	<b>Situational Awareness:</b> responding to current migration trends and data analysis
September	<b>Reception</b> standards: managing conditions and dignified treatment in <b>operations</b>
October	The <b>Monitoring Mechanism:</b> methodology, pilot results, and future monitoring exercises
November	<b>Country Guidance:</b> evidence-based decision making and <b>COI</b> updates
December	<b>End of year strategic review</b>



## 4. Timeline for CF activities in 2026

The table below provides a calendar overview on a quarterly basis of all CF activities planned for 2026.

Quarter	Activities
Q1 (January-March)	<p><b>Meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CF Chair participation in the Annual Training Reference Group Meeting</li> <li>- CF Chair participation in the Management Board Meeting to present the Annual Activity Report 2025 and the CF Work Plan 2026</li> <li>- Introductory meeting with the FRO on the country-specific meetings regarding the complaints mechanism</li> <li>- CF Dialogues</li> </ul> <p><b>Electronic consultations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Electronic consultation on SPD 2027-2029, Draft Work Plan 2027, Draft Budget 2027</li> <li>- Online call for publications and input to the Asylum Report 2026</li> <li>- Call for expressions of interest to be consulted on the training module 'Best Interests of the Child'</li> <li>- Call for expressions of interest to be consulted on the training module 'Age assessment'</li> </ul>
Q2 (April-June)	<p><b>Meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation of key findings of the Asylum Report</li> <li>- CF Consultation Group Meeting on COI</li> <li>- CF Consultation Group Meeting on Persons in a Vulnerable Situation</li> <li>- CF Dialogues</li> </ul>
Q3 (July-September)	<p><b>Meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Meeting on the Database on International Protection</li> <li>- CF Dialogues</li> </ul> <p><b>Electronic consultations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Survey to collect feedback on the Asylum Report</li> </ul>
Q4 (October-December)	<p><b>Meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CF Plenary Meeting</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CF Consultation Group Meeting on COI</li> <li>- CF Consultation Group Meeting on Persons in a Vulnerable Situation</li> <li>- Participation by CF Chair in the Management Board Meeting to present feedback and suggest measures as a follow-up to the Asylum Report</li> <li>- CF Dialogues</li> </ul> <p><b>Electronic consultations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Call for expressions of interest to be consulted on the training module ‘vulnerability assessment’</li> <li>- Consultation on training module ‘managing age assessment’</li> <li>- Consultation on training module ‘withdrawal of international protection’</li> </ul>
<b>Throughout 2026</b>	Regular exchanges with the FRO including country-specific meetings on the complaints mechanism as well as meetings prior to FRO’s visits to EUAA operational activities.

## 5. Format of CF Meetings

In line with the CF working methods, the CF Plenary Meeting shall be organised as an in-person meeting. The other meetings are planned to take place online, unless the Chair, in agreement with the Agency, decides otherwise provided that there is sufficient budget available.