

# Input by civil society to the EASO Annual Report 2019

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

The production of EASO's *2019 Annual Report on the Situation of Asylum in the European Union* is currently underway. The yearly [annual report](#) series present a comprehensive overview of developments in the field of asylum at the regional and national levels.

The report includes information and perspectives from various stakeholders, including experts from EU+ countries, civil society organizations, the UNHCR and researchers. To this end, we invite you to submit information on developments in asylum law, policy or practice in 2019 (and early 2020) by topic as presented in the online survey.

Please note that the EASO Annual 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. Your input can cover practices of a specific EU+ country or the EU as a whole. You can complete all or only some of the sections. It is preferred to provide your submission in bullet points to facilitate drafting.

All submissions are publicly accessible. For transparency, 2019 contributions will be published on the EASO webpage. Contributions to the 2018 annual report by civil society organisations can be accessed [here](#). All contributions should be appropriately referenced. You may include links to supporting material, such as analytical studies, articles, reports, websites, press releases or position papers. If your organisation does not produce any publications, please make reference to other published materials, such as joint statements issued with other organisations. 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 EASO annual report is subject to terms of reference and volume limitations. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity or may not be included in the final report. Contributions from civil society organisations feed into EASO's work in multiple ways and inform reports and analyses beyond the annual report.

Please complete the online survey and submit your contribution to the 2019 annual report by **Thursday, 12 March 2020**.

## [Instructions](#)

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Before completing the survey, please review the list of topics and types of information that should be included in your submission.

For each response, please only include the following type of information:

- New developments and improvements in 2019 and new or remaining challenges;
- Changes in policies or practices, transposition of legislation or institutional changes during 2019.

Please ensure that your responses remain within the scope of each section. Do not include information that goes beyond the thematic focus of each section or is not related to recent developments.

## Contributions by topic

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**1. Access to territory and access to asylum procedures (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. Availability and use of country of origin information (including organisation, methodology, products, databases, fact-finding missions, cooperation between stakeholders)

### 1) EASO COI Commentaries

ARC Foundation, together with the Dutch Council for Refugees, published the following commentaries on EASO COI reports in 2019:

- ARC Foundation/Dutch Council for Refugees, ARC Foundation and Dutch Council for Refugees comments on the EASO Country of Origin Information Report: Iraq Targeting of Individuals, March 2019, May 2019, [https://asylumresearchcentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/ARC-and-DCR-comments-on-the-EASO-Country-of-Origin-Information-Report-on-Iraq-May-2019\\_DEF.pdf](https://asylumresearchcentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/ARC-and-DCR-comments-on-the-EASO-Country-of-Origin-Information-Report-on-Iraq-May-2019_DEF.pdf)

- ARC Foundation/Dutch Council for Refugees, ARC Foundation and Dutch Council for Refugees comments on the EASO Country of Origin Information Report: Pakistan: Security situation, October 2019, December 2019, [https://asylumresearchcentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/ARC\\_and\\_DCR\\_comments\\_on\\_the\\_EASO\\_Country\\_of\\_Origin\\_Information\\_Report\\_on\\_Pakistan\\_\\_Dec\\_2019.pdf](https://asylumresearchcentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/ARC_and_DCR_comments_on_the_EASO_Country_of_Origin_Information_Report_on_Pakistan__Dec_2019.pdf)

- ARC Foundation/Dutch Council for Refugees, ARC Foundation and Dutch Council for Refugees comments on the EASO Country of Origin Information Report: Eritrea National service, exit and return, September 2019, December 2019, [https://asylumresearchcentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/ARC\\_and\\_DCR\\_comments\\_on\\_the\\_EASO\\_Country\\_of\\_Origin\\_Information\\_Report\\_on\\_Eritrea\\_\\_Dec\\_2019\\_Final\\_version-1.pdf](https://asylumresearchcentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/ARC_and_DCR_comments_on_the_EASO_Country_of_Origin_Information_Report_on_Eritrea__Dec_2019_Final_version-1.pdf)

### 2) EASO COI Reports

2019 saw the implementation of the formal arrangements with a range of external reviewers to comment on draft COI reports.

### 3) UK Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration

In January and June 2019 the UK Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration issued its inspection reports on the reviews carried out by the Independent Advisory Group on Country Information (IAGCI), notably on:

- Burma, Iraq and Zimbabwe: UK Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration, Inspection of Country of Origin Information, January 2019 Report, [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/809931/Inspection\\_of\\_Country\\_of\\_Origin\\_Information\\_2019\\_\\_Burma\\_\\_Iraq\\_and\\_Zimbabwe.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/809931/Inspection_of_Country_of_Origin_Information_2019__Burma__Iraq_and_Zimbabwe.pdf)

- Ethiopia and Jamaica: UK Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration, Inspection of Country of Origin Information, June 2019 Report, [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/864833/ICIBI\\_An\\_inspection\\_of\\_the\\_Home\\_Office\\_s\\_Country\\_of\\_Origin\\_Information\\_on\\_Ethiopia\\_and\\_Jamaica.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/864833/ICIBI_An_inspection_of_the_Home_Office_s_Country_of_Origin_Information_on_Ethiopia_and_Jamaica.pdf)

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**11. Vulnerable applicants (including definitions, 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. Relocation (ad hoc, emergency relocation; developments in activities organised under national schemes or on a bilateral basis)**

**16. National jurisprudence on international protection in 2019 (please include a link to the relevant case law and/or submit cases to the [EASO Case Law Database](#))**

**17. Other important developments in 2019**

## References and sources

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**18. Please provide links to references and sources and/or upload the related material in PDF format**

Provided under our response in Box 10

**19. Feedback or suggestions about the process or format for submissions to the EASO Annual Report**

Please upload your file

The maximum file size is 1 MB

## Contact details

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

## Contact

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