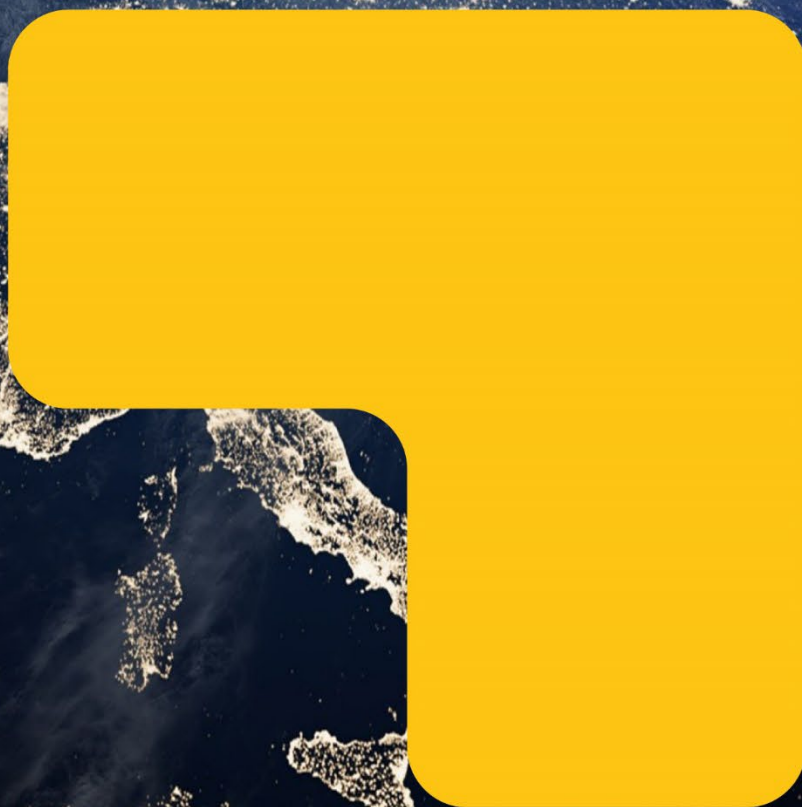


Asylum Authorities in the EU+





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Who is Who in International Protection, Issue No 1:
Asylum authorities in the EU+



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The ‘Who is Who’ project

‘Who is Who’ is a mapping project of various stakeholders and their role in asylum and reception systems at the European, national and local levels. The key actors and their roles are presented as defined in national policies and legislation and implemented in practice. The different competences and interlinks between actors are outlined.

As a first step, the mapping covers the role of national authorities responsible for or supporting different steps of the asylum and reception systems (for example, asylum and reception authorities, border guards and policymaking/executing bodies). The next phase will explore the role of operational partners and delegated competencies during different steps of asylum and reception procedures as defined by law (for example, interpretation and legal aid providers), including second instance authorities, other national bodies engaged in policymaking, legislative procedures, monitoring of challenges in asylum and reception, and civil society organisations at European, national and local levels.

Methodology

The methodology applied to the EUAA Asylum Report is followed. Accordingly, the Information and Analysis Sector undertakes desk research based on publicly-available sources and EUAA reports. The information is validated by Member States and other stakeholders, if applicable. For information produced by civil society organisations, the EUAA Consultative Forum will be consulted for validation. Elements of the project will be published in phases.

Overview of asylum authorities

The [recast Asylum Procedures Directive \(APD\)](#) establishes a common policy on and procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection. The directive foresees that “all Member States shall designate for all procedures a determining authority which will be responsible for an appropriate examination of applications in accordance with this Directive”.

This overview presents the authorities responsible for the examination of applications for international protection in EU+ countries,¹ which are commonly described as asylum authorities. The authorities which are competent for Dublin procedure will be presented on a separate issue. For each asylum authority, the following elements are included:

- General information on each position in the institutional structure
- Areas of activity (e.g. asylum, reception, migration)
- Legal status based on the following classification:
 - Government agency (independent authority)
 - Government federal agency (independent authority)
 - Government entity forming part of the Ministry
 - Law enforcement agency
- Role and competencies (a table of the relevant competencies for each step of the international protection procedure is included in [Annex 1](#))

¹ EU+ countries include EU Member States, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland.





- (Internal) organisational structure
- Legal basis
- Hyperlinks to official websites and social media channels. For the full list of links, see [Annex 2](#).

The information refers to the organisation of asylum authorities as at 9 March 2022.

Key findings

- 21 asylum authorities fall under a ministry (at the national/federal level), while 8 are established as independent authorities at the national/federal level. In two countries, the asylum authorities are part of law enforcement bodies.
- Italy is the only country where a separation of roles is made between the asylum authority (National Commission for the Right of Asylum) and the decision-making authorities (Territorial Commissions).
- The competences of national authorities cover both asylum and reception procedures in 15 EU+ countries. Only 10 authorities focus specifically on asylum procedures only.
- Asylum authorities have invested in their official websites to enhance their digital presence (all authorities have an official website). Many also have various social media channels. Out of 31 national authorities:
 - ✓ **17** have a Facebook page
 - ✓ **17** have a Twitter account
 - ✓ **16** have created a YouTube channel
 - ✓ **13** have LinkedIn pages



AT

Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum

Bundesamt für Fremdenwesen und Asyl (BFA)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The BFA is responsible for the implementation of:

- The Federal law on the establishment and organisation of the Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum (BFA-Einrichtungsgesetz – BFA-G);
- The Asylum Act 2005 (AsylG 2005), Federal Law Gazette I No 100;
- The 7th, 8th and 11th main part of the Aliens Police Act 2005 (FPG), Federal Law Gazette I No 100; and
- The Basic Welfare Service Act - Federal 2005, Federal Law Gazette I No 100.

In individual cases, the Federal Office is responsible for exchanging information on applicants within the Dublin procedure.

The Federal Minister of the Interior is authorised to set up initial reception centres by ordinance, which are part of the Federal Office. The Federal Office is responsible for the Staatendokumentation, which is the COI unit, providing country of origin information for all bodies and institutions involved in the asylum procedures and contributing to its quality assurance.

The BFA is not responsible for the definition of the safe country concept. Decisions on implicit withdrawals in the first instance procedure are not regulated in national law and explicit withdrawals are not permitted according to the Asylum Act, Section 25(2).

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Federal Office is a central authority with nationwide responsibility. The head office (directorate) is in Vienna, and there is a regional directorate (RD) in every federal state. Other organisational units of the BFA include initial reception centres (EAS^t): East, West and the EAS^t at the airport. There are also branch offices of the regional directorates (AS^t).

LEGAL BASIS

[Federal Law on the establishment and organisation of the Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum](#) | Bundesgesetz über die Einrichtung und Organisation des Bundesamtes für Fremdenwesen und Asyl (BFA-Einrichtungsgesetz – BFA-G).

General information

The Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum (BFA) reports to the Ministry of the Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum; migration

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

BE

Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons (CGRS)

Commissariat Général aux Réfugiés et aux Apatrides (CGRA) | Commissariaat-generaal voor de vluchtelingen en de staatlozen (CGVS)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The CGRS is responsible for conducting the asylum procedure, issuing certificates and civil status documents to recognised beneficiaries of international protection and stateless persons, and cooperation on European and international dimensions of asylum policy.

The task of the CGRS is to offer protection to persons who are likely to suffer persecution or serious harm if returned to their country of origin. The Commissioner General first determines whether the applicant qualifies for refugee status. If this is not the case, the Commissioner General studies whether the applicant qualifies for subsidiary protection status. The CGRS analyses each request for international protection in an individual, objective and impartial manner, in accordance with Belgian, European and international regulations.

The CGRS provides advice on the determination of the list of safe countries of origin and safe third countries, which is used by the Ministry of Interior jointly with the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs as a proposal to the government (Council of Ministers).

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Royal Decree of 11 July 2003 laying down the procedure before the Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons and its functioning](#) | Arrêté royal du 11 juillet 2003 fixant la procédure devant le Commissariat général aux réfugiés et aux apatrides ainsi que son fonctionnement.

General Information

The CGRS is an independent federal administration and the central asylum authority in Belgium

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government Federal Agency (independent authority)

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
[FACEBOOK](#)
[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)

BG

State Agency for Refugees (SAR)

Държавна агенция за бежанците при Министерския съвет

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

SAR has special competences in the field of state policy implementation for granting international protection. Its functions cover the reception of persons seeking international protection and administrative proceedings for examining applications for international protection.

The SAR chairperson can grant international protection, including refugee status and humanitarian status, according to the criteria in the Law on Asylum and Refugees.

SAR is responsible for proposing the list of safe countries of origin and safe third countries.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

SAR has nationwide competences under the Council of Ministers. The organisational structure is available on the official [website](#)

LEGAL BASIS

[Organizational Regulations of the State Agency for Refugees at the Council of Ministers](#) | УСТРОЙСТВЕН ПРАВИЛНИК НА ДЪРЖАВНАТА АГЕНЦИЯ ЗА БЕЖАНЦИТЕ ПРИ МИНИСТЕРСКИЯ СЪВЕТ

General information

The State Agency for Refugees operates under the Council of Ministers

Areas of Activity

Asylum; Reception

Legal Status

Government agency (independent authority)

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
[FACEBOOK](#)
[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)



Directorate for Immigration, Citizenship and Administrative Affairs, Service for International Protection

Uprava za Imigraciju, državljanstvo i upravne Poslove, Služba za međunarodnu zaštitu

General information

The Service for International Protection operates within the Ministry of Interior under the Directorate for Immigration, Citizenship, and Administrative Affairs, Sector for Foreigners and International Protection

Areas of Activity

Asylum; Migration

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Service for International Protection (SIP) organises, directs and coordinates work in the field of international and temporary protection. In addition, its tasks include:

- Participation in the drafting of regulations in this area and alignment of these regulations with the Acquis Communautaire;
- Participation in the work of working and expert groups of the European Union in the field of their competences;
- Participation in drafting proposals for national positions on common policies of the European Union in its area of competence;
- Participation in the preparation for the presidency of the Republic of Croatia in the Council European Union in its area of competence;
- Participation in work with EUAA and the development and implementation of projects funded by European Union in this area; and
- Cooperation with other organisational units of the Ministry, governmental authorities, and international and non-governmental organisations in asylum procedures, the procedure for determining the state responsible in the Dublin procedure and the integration of persons granted international protection.

SIP is not responsible for registering and lodging applications for international protection or for fingerprinting and identity verification, nor for proposing the list of safe countries of origin and safe third countries.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The following departments are established to perform tasks within the scope of work of the Service for International Protection:

- Department for International Protection Procedure
- Department for Dublin Procedure
- Department for Integration.

LEGAL BASIS

[Decree No 478 amending the Decree on the Internal Organisation of the Ministry of the Interior](#) | Uredba o izmjenama i dopunama Uredbe o unutarnjem ustrojstvu Ministarstva unutarnjih poslova



CY

Asylum Service

Υπηρεσία Ασύλου

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Asylum Service examines and decides on applications for international protection in accordance with the provisions of the Refugee Law and exercises any other competence granted to it under this law. In addition, the Asylum Service has the following responsibilities:

- Coordinates among all relevant national authorities on the implementation of the Refugee Law;
- Organises seminars and training programmes on international protection, asylum and refugees for officials handling such matters in all relevant authorities;
- Issues guidelines and circulars on matters governed by this law, Community Regulations, Decisions of the Bodies of the EU, findings of the Executive Committee of the UNHCR or relevant resolutions of the UN or other international organisations;
- Monitors the development of the European Union asylum *acquis* and submits proposals and suggestions to the Minister on the positions of the Ministry before the institutions of the EU;
- Manages the application of Eurodac Regulation for fingerprinting;
- Manages the implementation of the Dublin provisions; and
- Submits suggestions and proposals on policy issues in the areas of its competence to the Minister.

The Asylum Service is not responsible for registering and lodging applications for international protection or for fingerprinting and identity verification. It is not responsible for the provision of legal aid. It is responsible for proposing the list of safe countries of origin and safe third countries.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The following are established under the Head of the Cyprus Asylum Service:

- Refugee Status Determination Sector
- Sector for the Management, Supervision and Development of Reception Conditions
- Administration Sector.

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Refugee Law](#) | Ο περί Προσφύγων Νόμος του 2000 (6(I)/2000)

General information

The Asylum Service operates within the Ministry of Interior

Areas of Activity
Asylum; Reception**Legal Status**

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#) (via Ministry)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

CZ

Department for Asylum and Migration Policy

Odbor azylové a migrační politiky (OAMP)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Department for Asylum and Migration Policy is responsible for international protection, refugees, entry and residence of foreigners, policies concerning the integration of foreigners, the state integration programme and Schengen cooperation.

The Department is not responsible for the registration of applications for international protection.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Department of Asylum and Migration Policy is divided into a number of different units. A detailed overview is available on the [official website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Act No. 325/1999 Coll., the Asylum Act](#) | Zákon č. 325/1999 Sb. o azylu
[Act No. 326/1999 Coll. on the Residence of Foreign Nationals in the Czech Republic](#) | Zákon č. 326/1999 Sb. o pobytu cizinců na území České republiky

General Information

The Department for Asylum and Migration Policy is part of the Section of the Internal Security of the Ministry of Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum; Migration

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#) (via Ministry)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

DK

Danish Immigration Service (DIS)
Udlændingestyrelsen

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

DIS handles the right to visit and stay of foreigners in Denmark. The Immigration Service:

- processes applications on asylum;
- is responsible for the maintenance and accommodation of asylum seekers, persons on tolerated stay and persons deported by judgment;
- handles the processing of visa applications;
- processes applications for family reunification; and
- handles permanent residence permits.

It is not responsible for the provision of legal aid to applicants. For both implicit and explicit withdrawals, the cases are closed without a decision.

DIS is also responsible for proposing the list of safe countries of origin.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

DIS is divided into three centres, each headed by a deputy director: the Centre for Asylum, the Centre for Administration and Asylum Accommodation and the Centre for Family and Visits. The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Aliens \(Consolidation\) Act \(No 239 of 10 March 2019\)](#) | [Udlændingeloven](#)

(The English version of the law online is not the latest one. The latest version is only available in Danish)

General information

The Danish Immigration Service is an authority under the Ministry of Immigration and Integration Affairs

Areas of Activity

Asylum; Reception

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)



Police and Border Guard Board, Proceeding Bureau Aliens Division (PBGB)

Politsei- ja Piirivalveamet (PPA)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The PBGB performs the functions foreseen in the Act on Granting International Protection to Aliens (AGIPA).

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Proceeding Bureau Aliens Division is part of the PBGB.

LEGAL BASIS

[Police and Border Guard Act \(2010\)](#) | Politsei ja piirivalve seadus
[Statutes of the Police and Border Guard Board \(2014\)](#) | Politsei- ja Piirivalveameti põhimäärus

General information

The Police and Border Guard Board is a governmental agency of the Ministry of the Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#) (via PBGB)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

FI

Finnish Immigration Service

Maahanmuuttovirasto (Migri)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Finnish Immigration Service is responsible for immigration, asylum, refugees, and citizenship, and maintains a reception system. The agency implements Finland's immigration policy and promotes controlled immigration, good governance, and human and fundamental rights.

The Finnish Immigration Service is not responsible for the registration and lodging of applications for international protection.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Act on the Finnish Immigration Service](#) | Laki Maahanmuuttovirastosta

General information

The Finnish Immigration Service is an independent government authority operating under the direction of the Ministry of the Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum;
Reception;
Migration

Legal Status

Government agency
(independent authority)

[WEBSITE](#)[TWITTER](#)[FACEBOOK](#)[YOUTUBE](#)[LINKEDIN](#)

FR

French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons

Office Français de Protection des Réfugiés et Apatrides (OFPRA)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

OFPRA has three essential roles:

- Take decisions on applications for international protection (refugee status and subsidiary protection) and statelessness status;
- Ensure the legal and administrative protection of beneficiaries of international protection; and
- Act as an advisory body within the framework of the asylum procedure at the border.

OFPRA issues opinions to the Minister of the Interior on asylum applications for authorisation to enter French territory for asylum purposes.

OFPRA is not responsible for registering applications for international protection or for fingerprinting. It is also not responsible for providing legal aid.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Code of Entry and Stay of Foreigners and the Right of Asylum](#) | Code de l'entrée et du séjour des étrangers et du droit d'asile (CESEDA)

General information

OFPRA is placed under the administrative and financial supervision of the Ministry of the Interior.

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government agency (independent authority)

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

DE

Federal Office for Migration and Refugees
Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge (BAMF)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

BAMF is responsible for migration, processing asylum applications and ensuring refugee protection. It is also responsible for integration and undertakes research on migration.

BAMF is not responsible for the provision of legal aid to applicants. It is also not responsible for proposing the list of safe countries of origin and safe third countries.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Act on the Residence, Economic Activity and Integration of Foreigners in the Federal Territory \(Residence Act - AufenthG\)](#) | Gesetz über den Aufenthalt, die Erwerbstätigkeit und die Integration von Ausländern im Bundesgebiet, 2008

General Information

BAMF is a superior federal authority within the portfolio of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (BMI)

Areas of Activity

Asylum;
Reception;
Migration

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

EL

Asylum Service

Υπηρεσία Ασύλου

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Asylum Service is responsible for implementing asylum law and other forms of international protection for third-country nationals and stateless persons. It is the competent authority for planning and policymaking in granting asylum or other forms of international protection, as well as in monitoring and evaluating its implementation through Regional Asylum Offices. The Asylum Service is responsible for proposing the list of safe countries of origin and safe third countries.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Asylum Service is composed of the following organisational units:

- Support Directorate
- Regional Services Directorate
- Aegean Islands Directorate
- Attica Directorate
- Returns and Withdrawal Directorate.

Regional Asylum Offices and Asylum Units belong to the Regional Services Directorate, Aegean Islands Directorate and Attica Directorate.

LEGAL BASIS

[Law No 4375/2016 on “The organisation and operation of the Asylum Service, the Appeals Authority, the Reception and Identification Service, the establishment of the General Secretariat for Reception, the transposition into Greek legislation of the provisions of Directive 2013/32/EC on common procedures for granting and withdrawing the status of international protection \(recast\) \(L 180/29.6.2013\), provisions on the employment of beneficiaries of international protection and other provisions”](#) | Νόμος 4375/2016 «Οργάνωση και λειτουργία Υπηρεσίας Ασύλου, Αρχής Προσφυγών, Υπηρεσίας Υποδοχής και Ταυτοποίησης σύσταση Γενικής Γραμματείας Υποδοχής, προσαρμογή της Ελληνικής Νομοθεσίας προς τις διατάξεις της Οδηγίας 2013/32/ΕΕ διατάξεις για την εργασία δικαιούχων διεθνούς προστασίας και άλλες διατάξεις.»
[Presidential Decree No 106/2020 Organisation of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum](#) | Προεδρικό Διάταγμα υπ' αριθμ. 106/2020, Οργανισμός Υπουργείου Μετανάστευσης και Ασύλου

General Information

The Asylum Service operates at the level of a Directorate General within the Ministry of Migration and Asylum

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#) (via Ministry)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

HU

National Directorate-General for Aliens Policing (NDGAP)

Országos Idegenrendészeti Főigazgatóság (OIF)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The NGDAP is responsible for the entry, stay and integration of foreign nationals.

The NGDAP is partly responsible for the registration and lodging of applications for international protection and for fingerprinting and identity verification.

It is not responsible for the provision of legal aid to asylum applicants. It also not responsible for proposing the list of safe countries of origin and safe third countries.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

According to Government Decree No 126/2019. (V.30.), Article 3, the NDGAP is divided into a central body and regional directorates.

LEGAL BASIS

[Government Decree No 126/2019. \(V.30.\) on the designation and powers of the authority responsible for aliens policing](#) | 126/2019. (V. 30.) Kormány rendelet az idegenrendészeti szerv kijelöléséről és hatásköréről

General Information

NGDAP operates under the supervision of the Ministry of the Interior with nationwide competence. It is an independent budgetary body

Areas of Activity

Asylum; Reception

Legal Status

Law enforcement agency

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
[FACEBOOK](#)
[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)

IS

Directorate of Immigration
Útlendingastofnun

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The main task of the Directorate is to issue residence permits, whether in conjunction with a work permit, family reunification, student permits, au pair permits, visas and requests for asylum. In addition, the directorate is involved in many projects involving foreigners and cooperates on many levels with other organisations.

The Directorate is not responsible for the registration of applications for international protection and for fingerprinting.

It is responsible for proposing the list of safe countries of origin and of safe third countries.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Minister appoints the Director of the Directorate of Immigration for a term of 5 years.

LEGAL BASIS

[Foreign Nationals Act No 80/2016](#) | lögum um útlendinga nr. 80/2016

General Information

The Directorate of Immigration operates under the Ministry of Justice

Areas of Activity

Asylum; Reception

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

IE

International Protection Office (IPO)

An Oifig Um Chosaint Idirnáisiúnta

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

IPO's International Protection Officers make recommendations on first instance applications for international protection, according to the International Protection Act 2015. As part of a single procedure, the officers assess whether applicants should be given the permission to remain.

The IPO is not responsible for the identity verification of asylum applicants, border procedures or the provision of legal aid. It is also not responsible for country-of-origin information and for the definition of safe countries.

The IPO arranges for the provision of interpretation as required, but it does not employ interpreters directly.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The head of the IPO is the Chief International Protection Officer, who leads a team of international protection officers. Its duties are performed independently.

The organisational structure includes the following units:

- Reception Unit
- Dublin Unit
- Case Processing Support - Interview Scheduling and Arrangements Unit
- Case Management Unit
- Case Processing Units
- Case Processing Support - Recommendations and Decisions Unit
- Procedures and Training Unit
- Customer Service
- Permission to Remain
- Permission to Remain Review
- Information Access/Case Processing COI/Language Analysis/Staff Support
- Coordination Unit.

LEGAL BASIS

[International Protection Act 2015](#)

General Information

IPO is an office within the Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) of the Department of Justice

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

IT

National Commission for the Right of Asylum

Commissione nazionale per il diritto di asilo

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The National Commission for the Right of Asylum operates within the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration and constitutes the main authority of the Italian system for international protection, responsible to revoke and cease international protection. It is responsible for guiding and coordinating Territorial Commissions, which are responsible for examining applications for international protection.

The National Commission also prepares guidelines and training activities, as well as monitors the quality of procedures and activities in order to maintain uniform decision-making standards. It also collects data on asylum applications and decisions on applications and establishes and updates information on the countries of origin (COI) of asylum seekers.

The National Commission is the contact point for international organisations active in the sector (in particular UNHCR and EUAA), participates in networks and carries out activities at the international level. The National Commission is also responsible for the definition of safe third countries.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Legislative Decree 28 January 2008, No 25 on the "Implementation of Directive 2005/85/EC laying down minimum standards for the procedures applied in the Member States for the purpose of recognising and withdrawing refugee status"](#) | Decreto Legislativo 28 gennaio 2008, n.25 "Attuazione della direttiva 2005/85/CE recante norme minime per le procedure applicate negli Stati membri ai fini del riconoscimento e della revoca dello status di rifugiato"

General information

The National Commission for the Right of Asylum operates within the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration of the Ministry of the Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
[FACEBOOK](#)
[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)

IT

Territorial Commissions for the Recognition of International Protection

Commissioni Territoriali per il riconoscimento della protezione internazionale

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

Territorial Commissions are responsible for examining applications for international protection. The commissions are responsible for first instance procedures, border procedures, the personal interview, the assessment of applications, country of origin information, the provision of interpretation at first instance, and decisions at first instance, including in cases of implicit and explicit withdrawals.

The competence of the commissions, identified by decree of the Minister of the Interior on 10 November 2014, is determined on the basis of the district in which the application is presented, or of the centre in which the applicant is eventually accepted or detained, as provided by Legislative Decree No 25/2008, Article 4(5). The [location](#) and [competences](#) of the Territorial Commissions are available on the website.

General information

Territorial Commissions are appointed by decree of the Minister of the Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government agency (independent authority)

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Territorial Commissions are chaired by a prefectural career officer (with the qualification of Vice-Prefect) and made up of administrative officials specialised in asylum and a representative from UNHCR.

Legislative Decree No 25/2008, Article 4(2) establishes a maximum of 20 commissions and allows, in paragraph 2bis, the establishment of a maximum of 30 sections at each commission. Currently, there are 20 Territorial Commissions and 21 sections, for a total of 41 colleges.

LEGAL BASIS

[Legislative Decree 28 January 2008, No 25 on the "Implementation of Directive 2005/85/EC laying down minimum standards for the procedures applied in the Member States for the purpose of recognising and withdrawing refugee status"](#) | Decreto Legislativo 28 gennaio 2008, n.25 "Attuazione della direttiva 2005/85/CE recante norme minime per le procedure applicate negli Stati membri ai fini del riconoscimento e della revoca dello status di rifugiato"

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
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[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)



Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (OCMA), Asylum Division

Pilsonības un migrācijas lietu pārvalde (PMLP)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The functions of the OCMA are the implementation of state policy and ensuring development in the following areas:

- migration and asylum;
- determination of the legal status of persons;
- population registration and documentation; and
- issuance of identity documents and travel documents.

The OCMA is not responsible for the registration and lodging of applications for international protection and for fingerprinting and identity verification.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Head of the Board is a civil servant who performs the functions of the head of a direct public administration institution as specified in the State Administration Structure Law. The OCMA has an Asylum Affairs Unit and an Asylum Seekers Reception Unit.

LEGAL BASIS

[Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No 321 \(2021\) Regulations of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs](#) | Ministru kabineta noteikumi Nr. 321 (2021) Pilsonības un migrācijas lietu pārvaldes nolikums

General

Information

OCMA is an institution under the supervision of the Minister of the Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum;
Reception;
Migration

Legal Status

Government
agency
(independent
authority)

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

LT

Migration Department, Asylum Division

Migracijos departamentas (MD)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Migration Department carries out asylum procedures. It is responsible for examining asylum applications and making decisions on granting or refusing international protection (refugee status or subsidiary protection), collecting, analysing and compiling information on countries of origin and third countries, and, where necessary, coordinating joint actions of state institutions and bodies and non-governmental organisations related to the implementation of asylum procedures.

The MD coordinates and implements the transfer of foreigners who are in need of asylum from the European Union or third countries. During the asylum procedure, asylum seekers have a right to use legal and translation services free of charge. The provision of these services to the asylum seekers is organised and coordinated by the Migration Department.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Order on approval of the regulations of the Migration Department under the Ministry of the Interior, No 388](#) | Dėl Migracijos departamento prie Vidaus reikalų ministerijos nuostatų patvirtinimo No. 388

General information

The Migration Department operates under the Ministry of the Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum;
Reception;
Migration

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
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[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)



Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Directorate of Immigration - Refugee Service

Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes, Direction de l'immigration - Service réfugiés

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Refugee Service is responsible for registering and processing applications for international protection. The Dublin Unit is part of the Refugee Service, responsible for decisions based on the Dublin III Regulation.

The Grand-Ducal Police is responsible for fingerprinting and identity verification, and it is based in the same building as the Refugee Service.

The Refugee Service is not responsible for the provision of legal aid to applicants, nor for the definition of the safe country concept.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Grand-Ducal Regulation of December 18, 2015 determining the organizational plan for the central administration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs](#) | Règlement grand-ducal du 18 décembre 2015 déterminant le plan d'organisation de l'administration centrale du Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes

General information

The Refugee Service operates within the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#) (via Ministry)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

MT

International Protection Agency (IPA)

Aġenzija għall-Protezzjoni Internazzjonali

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

IPA is responsible for receiving, assessing and taking decisions on applications for international protection. The IPA is also responsible for the implementation of the Dublin III Regulation.

IPA has a Quality Control Unit that is responsible for reviewing all decisions prior to the final submission for approval. This unit will also start to monitor the quality of the asylum process from an administrative point of view.

IPA is only partly responsible for fingerprinting, which is not done by the agency for Eurodac purposes. It is not responsible for the provision of legal aid to applicants.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Prime Minister nominates the Chief Executive Officer, the Deputy to the CEO, and may assign public officers to be members of the staff of the CEO as necessary.

LEGAL BASIS

[International Protection Act, Chapter 420](#) | Att Dwar Il-Protezzjoni Internazzjonali, Kapitolu 420

General Information

IPA falls under the remit of the Ministry for Home Affairs, Security, Reforms and Equality.

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)[TWITTER](#)[FACEBOOK](#)[YOUTUBE](#)[LINKEDIN](#)

NL

Immigration and Naturalisation Service

Immigratie -en Naturalisatiedienst (IND)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The IND is responsible for implementing the policy on foreign nationals and the assessment of all residence applications of people who wish to live in the Netherlands or who want to become a Dutch citizen, including refugees. However, the IND has no influence on the policy on foreign nationals, which is handled by the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The IND handles naturalisation applications from people who have lived in the country long term and consider themselves as Dutch citizens and therefore wish to apply for a Dutch passport.

The IND assesses each application individually against the rules of the policy on foreign nationals.

It is not responsible for lodging of applications and fingerprinting, as this is the responsibility of the Dutch Aliens Police. It is also not responsible for the definition of the list of safe countries of origin and safe third countries, for the provision of legal aid to applicants and only in part for the provision of information, which is mainly the responsibility of the COA and the Dutch Refugee Council.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Organisational decision Ministry of Justice and Security](#) | Organisatiebesluit Ministerie van Justitie en Veiligheid - BWBR0040293

General Information

The Minister of Migration (belonging to the Ministry of Justice and Security - Staatssecretaris van Justitie en Veiligheid) is politically responsible for the IND

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
[FACEBOOK](#)
[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)

NO

Directorate of Immigration
Utlendingsdirektoratet UDI)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The UDI implements the policies of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security in the fields of migration and asylum.

The UDI processes applications for protection (asylum), visitor's visas, family immigration, residence permits for work and study purposes, citizenship, permanent residence permits and travel documents. The UDI is also responsible for ensuring that all asylum seekers are offered accommodation during the asylum process, and for finding solutions for those who wish to return to their home countries.

UDI is responsible for proposing the list of safe countries of origin and safe third countries to the Ministry of Justice and Public Security.

The Protection Service is responsible for asylum interviews and the processing of asylum applications. The Protection Service also handles family immigration cases, renewals, permanent residence and revocation cases for persons with international protection.

The UDI is not responsible for the registration and lodging of applications for international protection or for fingerprinting or identity verification; this is the responsibility of the National Police Immigration Service.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Establishment of the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration](#) | Opprettelse av Utlendingsdirektoratet

General Information

The UDI operates under the Immigration Department (INN) within the Ministry of Justice and Public Security.

Areas of Activity

Asylum;
Reception;
Migration

Legal Status

Government authority subordinate to the Ministry of Justice and Public Security

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

PL

Head of the Office for Foreigners

Szef Urzędu do Spraw Cudzoziemców

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

Head of the Office for Foreigners is the central government administrative body which is competent for the entry of foreigners, transit through the country, stay in and departure from it, granting international protection, providing social assistance and medical care to persons applying for international protection, granting asylum to foreigners, and granting temporary protection except for matters reserved for other authorities.

Head of the Office is not responsible for the registration and lodging of applications for international protection and for fingerprinting and identity verification. It is also not responsible for the provision of legal aid to asylum applicants.

The concepts of safe countries of origin and safe third countries, as well as border procedures, are not envisaged in the law in Poland.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Statute of the Office for Foreigners \(2020 as amended in 2021\)](#) | Statut Urzędu do Spraw Cudzoziemców

General Information

Head of the Office for Foreigners is a specialised body of the central public administration, reporting to the Ministry of the Interior and Administration

Areas of Activity

Asylum;
Reception;
Migration

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

PT

Immigration and Borders Service, Asylum and Refugees Office

Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras, Gabinete de Asilo e Refugiados (SEF)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Asylum and Refugees Office is responsible for:

- Organising and instructing asylum procedures;
- Under the terms of the asylum law, organising and instructing the procedures for granting a residence permit for humanitarian reasons;
- Organising and instructing the processes for determining the state responsible for examining asylum applications and issuing the respective safe conduct, if necessary;
- Issuing opinions on requests for resettlement of refugees;
- Issuing opinions on requests for granting and extending travel documents for refugees at Portuguese consular posts;
- Issuing identity cards and travel documents for refugees, as well as granting residence permits provided for in the asylum law and renewing or extending these documents;
- Ensuring the link between the SEF and EUAA; and
- Undertaking strategic planning for EUAA's activities.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Decree-Law No 240/2012 third amendment to Decree-Law No 252/2000 of 16 October, approving the Organic Law of Foreigners and Borders Service](#) | Decreto-Lei n.º 240/2012 Procede à terceira alteração ao Decreto-Lei n.º 252/2000, de 16 de outubro, que aprova a Lei Orgânica do Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras

[Decree-Law No 252/2000 on Organic structure and defines the duties of the Immigration and Borders Service](#) | Decreto-Lei n.º 252/2000 Aprova a estrutura orgânica e define as atribuições do Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras

General Information

SEF is a security service within the Ministry of Internal Administration (MAI)

Areas of Activity

Asylum; Migration

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

RO

General Inspectorate of Immigration

Inspectoratul General pentru Imigrări (IGI)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The General Inspectorate for Immigration implements policies in the fields of migration, asylum and the integration of foreigners, as well as relevant legislation in these fields.

The inspectorate is responsible for proposing the list of safe countries of origin and safe third countries.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The General Inspectorate for Immigration consists, at the central level, of directions, services and other functional structures, and, at the territorial level, of regional accommodation centres and procedures for asylum applicants, accommodation centres for foreigners taken into public custody and services/offices in each county. The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Law No 118 of July 4, 2012 on the approval of the Government Emergency Ordinance No 18/2012 for the amendment of the Government Emergency Ordinance No 30/2007 on the organisation and functioning of the Ministry of Administration and Interior](#) | Lege nr. 118 din 4 iulie 2012 privind aprobarea Ordonanței de urgență a Guvernului nr. 18/2012 pentru modificarea Ordonanței de urgență a Guvernului nr. 30/2007 privind organizarea și funcționarea Ministerului Administrației și Internelor

General Information

The General Inspectorate for Immigration is a specialised body of the central public administration, reporting to the Ministry of Administration and Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum;
Reception;
Migration

Legal Status

Law enforcement agency

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
[FACEBOOK](#)
[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)

SK

Migration Office
 Migračný úrad

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Migration Office is a specialised unit of the Ministry of the Interior in the area of asylum, integration of beneficiaries of international protection, and foreign cooperation and documentation.

The Migration Office performs tasks in the areas of:

- Policymaking related to asylum, migration and integration;
- Decision-making in administrative proceedings related to granting asylum, subsidiary protection including legal representation of the ministry in asylum courts;
- Tasks related to the Dublin procedure;
- Establishment of asylum facilities and ensuring their operation and providing reception conditions for applicants, care for applicants, asylum seekers and persons with provided temporary protection, integration of asylum seekers and persons with provided temporary protection;
- Cooperation with national and international institutions, bodies and organisations.
- Drafting of Country-of-origin information reports

The Migration Office prepares documents for the evaluation of countries a safe country of origin or safe third country. The Migration Office is not responsible for the registration/lodging of applications for international protection nor for fingerprinting and identity verification which is performed by Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Presidium of the Police Force.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational structure of the Migration Office corresponds to the diversity of tasks performed by the office, either directly in relation to applicants for international protection and persons granted international protection or in representing the Slovak Republic in specialised fora at national and international levels. The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation No 39/2015 of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak republic on the Organisational structure of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak republic. | Nariadenie Ministerstva vnútra Slovenskej republiky č. 39/2015 o organizačnom poriadku Ministerstva vnútra Slovenskej republiky.

[Organizational rules](#)

General Information

The Migration Office is one of the organisational units of the Ministry of Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum; Reception

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

SI

Ministry of the Interior, Migration Directorate

Ministrstvo za notranje zadeve, Urad za migracije

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Migration Directorate is responsible for the planning and implementation of the migration policy (including asylum), the preparation and harmonisation of proposed measures for migration policies and the preparation of drafts of normative acts. The competences of the Migration Directorate also include the recognition of international protection.

The Migration Directorate is not responsible for the registration of applications for international protection, which is carried out by the police.

The Migration Directorate also prepares documents for the evaluation of countries as safe country of origin or safe third country.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Migration Directorate is formed by the following organisational units:

- International Protection Procedures Division (asylum officers and decision-makers);
- Migration Policy and Legislation Division; and
- Regular Migration Procedures Division.

LEGAL BASIS

[State Administration Act](#) | Zakon o državni upravi
[Decree on the internal organisation, job classification, posts and titles in public administration and judicial bodies](#) | Uredba o notranji organizaciji, sistemizaciji, delovnih mestih in nazivih v organih javne uprave in v pravosodnih organih

General Information

The Migration Directorate operates within the Ministry of the Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum; Migration

Legal Status

Government entity forming part of the Ministry

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
[FACEBOOK](#)
[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)

ES

Spanish Asylum Office

Oficina de Asilo y Refugio (OAR)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

Reporting to the Ministry of the Interior, the Spanish Asylum Office is responsible for processing international protection and statelessness applications and proposing a final decision in accordance with relevant national and international legislation, including the provisions of Dublin III Regulation. It also deals with administrative appeals regarding international protection and statelessness decisions.

Registration of applications for international protection, personal interviews and issuance of provisional and permanent residence and travel documents are carried out by the National Police in close cooperation with the Asylum Office. Reception and integration programs are under the scope of the Secretary of State for Migration within the Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Spanish Asylum Office is a government entity structured as a Subdirectorato-General (International Protection), gathering 2 second-level Subdirectorates (processing of applications and legal/administrative/international issues) composed of different Units and Sectors in charge of the above-mentioned role and competencies.

LEGAL BASIS

[Law 12/2009, of October 30, regulating the right to asylum and subsidiary protection](#) | Ley 12/2009, de 30 de octubre, reguladora del derecho de asilo y de la protección subsidiaria

[Royal Decree 734/2020, of August 4, laying down the organic structure of the Ministry of the Interior](#) | Real Decreto 734/2020, de 4 de Agosto, por el que se desarrolla la estructura orgánica básica del Ministerio del Interior

General Information

The Spanish Asylum Office operates under the Directorate General for Internal Policy within the Ministry of the Interior

Areas of Activity

Asylum

Legal Status

Government entity dependent on the Ministry of the Interior

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
[FACEBOOK](#)
[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)



Swedish Migration Agency (SMA)

Migrationsverket

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The Swedish Migration Agency is responsible for residence permits, work permits, visas, citizenship, asylum and return. The Swedish Migration Agency's assignment includes offering accommodation to asylum applicants and money for food while they wait for a decision.

Every year, the Swedish Migration Agency receives a [regulation letter](#) from the government, which outlines the annual goals and assignments apply and allocates the yearly funding.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[The ordinance \(2019: 502\) with instructions for the Swedish Migration Agency](#) | Förordning (2019:502) med instruktion till Migrationsverket

General information

The Migration Agency is a state-controlled organisation that acts independently

Areas of Activity

Asylum;
Reception;
Migration

Legal Status

Government agency
(independent authority)

[WEBSITE](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[FACEBOOK](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

CH

State Secretariat for Migration

Staatssekretariat für Migration | Secrétariat d'État aux migrations | Segreteria di Stato della migrazione (SEM)

ROLE AND COMPETENCIES

The State Secretariat regulates the conditions under which someone is allowed to enter, live and work in Switzerland, including deciding on granting international protection. Together with the cantons, the State Secretariat organises the accommodation of asylum applicants and the return of those who do not need protection. In addition, the State Secretariat coordinates integration work, is responsible for naturalisation at the federal level and is committed to the effective management of migration movements at the international level.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The SEM is divided into four directorate areas and has five staff areas. The organisational chart is available on the [website](#).

LEGAL BASIS

[Foreign Nationals and Integration Act \(FNIA\)](#) | Bundesgesetz über die Ausländerinnen und Ausländer und über die Integration (AIG) | Loi fédérale sur les étrangers et l'intégration (LEI) | Legge federale sugli stranieri e la loro integrazione (LStrI)
[Asylum Act \(AsylA\)](#) | Asylgesetz (AsylG) | Loi sur l'asile (LAsi) | Legge sull'asilo (LAsi)

General Information

SEM is a federal authority of the Swiss Confederation

Areas of Activity

Asylum;
Reception;
Migration

Legal Status

Federal government agency (independent authority)

[WEBSITE](#)
[TWITTER](#)
[FACEBOOK](#)
[YOUTUBE](#)
[LINKEDIN](#)



ANNEXES



Annex 1. Competencies of national asylum authorities for each step of the asylum procedure

Country	Authority	Registration of an application	Lodging of an application	Fingerprinting	Identity verification	First instance asylum procedure	Border procedure	Personal interview	Assessment of an asylum application	Country of origin information	Definition of safe country concept	Drafting of guidelines or work instructions	Training of staff	Quality monitoring of decisions and processes	Provision of legal aid at first instance	Provision of information on the asylum procedure	Provision of interpretation for a first instance asylum application	Decision on first instance asylum application	Decision on implicit withdrawal in the first instance procedure	Decision on explicit withdrawal in the first instance procedure
Austria	Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No ³	No ⁴
Belgium	Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No ⁵	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

² In cooperation with the Federal Ministry of the Interior.

³ Currently there is no national regulation on implicit withdrawals.

⁴ According to the Asylum Act, Section 25(2), it is not possible to withdraw an application in Austria. RIS - Asylgesetz 2005, Section 25 - Bundesrecht konsolidiert (bka.gv.at)

⁵ Advisory function but a proposal is made by the Ministry of the Interior jointly with the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and a formal decision is taken by the government (Council of Ministers).

Bulgaria	State Agency for Refugees	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (proposing)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Croatia	Directorate for Immigration, Citizenship, and Administrative Affairs, Service for International Protection	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cyprus	Asylum Service	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (proposing)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No ⁶	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Czechia	Department for Asylum and Migration Policy (Ministry of the Interior)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Denmark	Danish Immigration Service	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (proposing)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A ⁷	N/A ⁸	

6 Only information on competent NGOs or other organisations which can provide legal aid is given.

7 For explicit withdrawals, the asylum application is closed without a decision.

8 For explicit withdrawals, the asylum application is closed without a decision.



Estonia	Police and Border Guard Board, Proceeding Bureau Aliens Division	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Finland	Finnish Immigration Service	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A ⁹	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
France	French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Germany	Federal Office for Migration and Refugees	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹⁰	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Greece	Asylum Service	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (proposing)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hungary	National Directorate-General for Aliens Policing	Yes, partly	Yes, partly	Yes, partly	Yes, partly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Iceland	Directorate of Immigration	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (proposing)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

⁹ There is no border procedure yet in Finland.

¹⁰ This applies to the 'airport procedure' in accordance with the Asylum Act, Section 18a.



Ireland	International Protection Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes ¹¹	Yes	Yes	Yes
Italy	National Commission for the Right of Asylum	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes ¹²	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Italy	Territorial Commissions for the Recognition of International Protection	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latvia	Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs, Asylum Division	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lithuania	Migration Department (Asylum Division)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Luxembourg	Minister of Foreign and European Affairs (through the Refugee Unit under the Directorate of Immigration)	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	N/A ¹³	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

¹¹ While the IPO arranges for the provision of interpretation as required, it does not employ interpreters directly.

¹² For the revocation and cessation of international protection.

¹³ There are no border procedures.

Malta	International Protection Agency	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹⁴	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹⁵ (proposing)	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹⁶	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Netherlands	Immigration and Naturalisation Service	Yes	No ¹⁷	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No ¹⁸	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes ¹⁹	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Norway	Directorate of Immigration (Asylum Department)	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (proposing)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Poland	Office for Foreigners	No	No	No	No	Yes	N/A ²⁰	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A ²¹	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Portugal	Immigration and Borders Service (Asylum and Refugees Office)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Romania	General Inspectorate of Immigration	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (proposing)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

14 Only for running the necessary checks on VIS. Fingerprinting for other purposes (such as Eurodac) is not done by the IPA.

15 Possibility to propose amendments to the list of safe countries of origin.

16 The IPA has a Quality Control Unit that is responsible for reviewing all decisions prior to the final submission for approval. This unit will also start to monitor the quality of the asylum process from an administrative point of view.

17 The actual lodging and fingerprinting are done by the Dutch Aliens Police.

18 The IND takes decisions and has a special safe country procedure. However, the IND is not responsible for assessing whether a country should be listed as a safe country of origin.

19 However, a large part of information provision falls under the responsibility of the COA and the Dutch Refugee Council.

20 Not envisaged in law.

21 Not envisaged in law.

Slovakia	Migration Office	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No ²²	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Slovenia	Ministry of the Interior, Migration Directorate	No ²³	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Spain	Asylum and Refugee Office	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sweden	Swedish Migration Agency	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Switzerland	State Secretariat for Migration	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

22 The Migration Office prepares documents for the evaluation of fulfilling the criteria as a safe country of origin or safe third country. The proposal to include or exclude a country on the list of safe countries may come from decision-makers, lawyers or other sections of the Migration Office.

23 The police is responsible for the registration of an application for international protection.

Annex 2. Links to official websites and social media of national asylum authorities



Country	Authority	Website	Facebook	Twitter	YouTube	Linkedin
Austria	Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum (BFA)	https://www.bfa.gv.at/				
Belgium	Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons (CGRS)	https://www.cgrs.be/en	https://www.facebook.com/Cgra.Cgvs	https://twitter.com/cgvs_cgra	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR1XQ2vKu1E_WWayfViLvw	http://www.linkedin.com/company/cgvs-cgra-official/
Bulgaria	State Agency for Refugees (SAR)	https://aref.government.bg/	https://www.facebook.com/StateAgencyForRefugees		https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBMIGlqfpEVtA6xpoXerEEw	
Croatia	Directorate for Immigration, Citizenship, and Administrative Affairs, Service for International Protection	https://mup.gov.hr/		https://twitter.com/mup_rh	https://www.youtube.com/user/muptv192/videos	https://www.linkedin.com/company/muprh/
Cyprus	Asylum Service	http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/index_gr/index_gr?OpenDocument				
Czechia	Department for Asylum and Migration Policy (Ministry of the Interior)	https://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/odbor-azylove-a-migracni-politiky.aspx	https://www.facebook.com/vnitro_cz/	https://twitter.com/vnitro	https://www.youtube.com/user/MinisterstvoVnitraCR/featured	
Denmark	Danish Immigration Service	https://us.dk/				https://www.linkedin.com/company/udlendingeservice/
Estonia	Police and Border Guard Board, Proceeding Bureau Aliens Division (PBGB)	https://www.politsei.ee/en	https://www.facebook.com/politseijapiirivalvemet	https://twitter.com/politsei	https://www.youtube.com/user/Eestipolitsei/featured	





Ireland	International Protection Office	http://www.ipo.gov.ie/				
Italy	National Commission for the Right of asylum	http://www.libertaciviliimmigrazione.dlci.interno.gov.it/it/commissione-nazionale-diritto-asilo				
Italy	Territorial Commissions for the Recognition of International Protection					
Latvia	Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (OCMA) - Asylum Division	https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv	https://www.facebook.com/leM.PMLP/	https://twitter.com/leM_PM_LP	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCakuw-VfqBL1iXsc6X9EE_w/featured	
Lithuania	Migration Department (Asylum Division)	http://migracija.lrv.lt	https://www.facebook.com/migracijaLT/		https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxocUEX8BCpTG7-dli5zZuq	
Luxembourg	Minister of Foreign and European Affairs (through the Refugee Unit under the Directorate of Immigration)	https://maee.gouvernement.lu/fr/directions-du-ministere/immigration.html	https://www.facebook.com/MAEE.Luxembourg/	https://twitter.com/mfa_lu?lang=en		
Malta	International Protection Agency (IPA)	https://homeaffairs.gov.mt/public-body/international-protection-agency/	https://www.facebook.com/MaltaIPA	https://twitter.com/maltaipa		https://www.linkedin.com/company/maltaipa/
Netherlands	Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND)	Home Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND)	https://www.facebook.com/IND.NL	https://twitter.com/ind_nl	https://www.youtube.com/c/ImmigratieenNaturalisatiedienstIND	https://www.linkedin.com/company/immigratie-en-naturalisatiedienst-ind/
Norway	Directorate of Immigration (Asylum Department)	https://www.udi.no/		https://www.udi.no/presse/udi-i-sosiale-medier/	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsEMacLS CvA0vEycdSqa6_Q/playslists	https://www.linkedin.com/company/udi/?originalSubdomain=no
Poland	Office for Foreigners	https://www.gov.pl/web/udsc/urzad-do-spraw-cudzoziemcow2	http://www.facebook.com/udsc.gov	https://twitter.com/udsc_gov_pl	http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCf7HqgNTLJa5WqgL2KymhxA	https://www.linkedin.com/company/udsc/
Portugal	Immigration and Borders Service (Asylum and Refugees Office)	https://www.sef.pt/pt/Pages/homepage.aspx	https://www.facebook.com/servicodeestrangeirosefronteiras	https://twitter.com/sef_portugal	https://www.youtube.com/servi%C3%A7odeestrangeirosefronteiras	https://www.linkedin.com/company/servi%C3%A7o-de-estrangeiros-e-fronteiras/



Romania	General Inspectorate of Immigration	http://igi.mai.gov.ro/	https://www.facebook.com/imigrari/?fref=ts			
Slovakia	Migration Office	https://www.minv.sk/?mi-gracny-urad-mv-sr			Migration Office Slovakia https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBLNgbekZrnDb-Em8_RbLag	
Slovenia	Ministry of the Interior, Migration Directorate	https://www.gov.si/drzavni-organi/ministrstva/ministrstvo-za-notranje-zadeve/o-ministrstvu/direktorat-za-migracije/				
Spain	Asylum and Refugee Office	https://www.interior.gob.es/opencms/es/servicios-al-ciudadano/tramites-y-gestiones/oficina-de-asilo-y-refugio/				
Sweden	Swedish Migration Agency	https://www.migrationsverket.se/	https://www.facebook.com/migrationsverket/	https://twitter.com/Migrationsverket	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3N-O5mKhIBMdTkZMV09aYA	https://www.linkedin.com/company/migrationsverket/
Switzerland	State Secretariat for Migration	https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/de/home.html		https://twitter.com/SEMIGRATION	https://www.youtube.com/user/EJPDBFM	https://www.linkedin.com/company/sem-sem/