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Ad-Hoc Query on 2023.33 Workload of employees involved in the examination of asylum applications

Requested by Latvia on 10 August 2023

Compilation produced on 6 October 2023

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia (20 in Total)

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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On behalf of the EMN Latvia

EMN Latvian Contact Point would like to launch this ad-hoc query on behalf of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (OCMA) in order to learn about the approach of the European Union Member States in planning the number of employees involved in the examination of asylum application, including in the context of the Dublin Regulation. In accordance with the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council addressing situations of crises and force majeure in the field of migration and asylum, Member States should have sufficient human and financial resources and infrastructure to effectively implement asylum and migration management policies and should ensure appropriate coordination between the relevant national authorities as well as with the national authorities of the other Member States to ensure their asylum, reception or return system is well prepared, including preparedness and contingency planning and that each component has sufficient capacity.

Planning for and providing an appropriate number of employees involved in the examination of asylum applications is important due to the ever-increasing number of asylum seekers.

In Latvia, the State Border Guard and the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs are involved in the implementation of the asylum procedure.

We would like to ask the following questions:

1. Please provide a brief explanation of the division of duties between the institutions involved in the asylum procedure in your country (If there is only one institution that manages all the procedure please indicate it)

2. Please indicate which institution/services performs following duties regarding examination of asylum applications: a) Interviewing of asylum seekers; b) analysis of information on the country of origin of the applicants; c) preparation of decisions; d) application of the Dublin Regulation; e) issuance of identity documents (including renewals); f) payment of benefits; g) other duties (please list them)

3. Please indicate the number of employees involved in the decision-making within the framework of the asylum procedure and the total number of decisions prepared (decision on granting or refusing refugee or alternative status, on taking a decision for examination, decision on transfer to the responsible EU Member State in accordance with the Dublin

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Regulation, decision to discontinue examination of the application, etc.): a. In 2020 ____ (number of employees) prepared ____ (number) decisions. b. In 2021 ____ (number of employees) prepared ____ (number) decisions. c. In 2022 ____ (number of employees) prepared ____ (number) decisions.

4. Has a methodology been developed in your country, according to which the necessary number of employees involved in the decision-making within the framework of the asylum procedure, including in the context of the Dublin Regulation, is calculated? If yes, please briefly describe it.

We would very much appreciate your responses by **21 September 2023**.

2. RESPONSES

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		Wider Dissemination²	
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¹ If possible at time of making the request, the Requesting EMN NCP should add their response(s) to the query. Otherwise, this should be done at the time of making the compilation.

² A default "Yes" is given for your response to be circulated further (e.g. to other EMN NCPs and their national network members). A "No" should be added here if you do not wish your response to be disseminated beyond other EMN NCPs. In case of "No" and wider dissemination beyond other EMN NCPs, then for the Compilation for Wider Dissemination the response should be removed and the following statement should be added in the relevant response box: "This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further."

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	EMN NCP Austria	No	
	EMN NCP Belgium	Yes	<p>1. In Belgium, the process of applying for international protection involves three key governmental instances, each with different responsibilities and intervening at different stages of the process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Immigration Office, which manages access to, removal from, and residence and settlement on the Belgian territory, is responsible for the registration of applications for international protection. It also decides on the application of the Dublin Regulation. • Applications for international protection, subsequent applications and applications for international protection for which Belgium is responsible under the Dublin Regulation, are transferred to the Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons (CGRS) for examination. The CGRS is an independent federal administration exclusively responsible for the first-instance procedure in terms of examining and granting, refusing or withdrawing refugee and/or subsidiary protection. • Appeals against a decision made by the Immigration Office and the CGRS are handled by the Council for Alien Law Litigation (CALL), an administrative court. <p>2. a) Interviewing of asylum seekers: Immigration Office and CGRS b) analysis of information on the country of origin of the applicants: CGRS c) preparation of decisions: CGRS d) application of the Dublin Regulation: Immigration Office e) issuance of identity documents (including renewals): CGRS</p> <p>3. For the application of the Dublin regulation:</p>


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		<p>In 2020: 4455 transfer decisions by the Dublin unit, the Dublin Unit sent 6607 requests, 2985 incoming requests were answered by the Dublin Unit In 2021: 2852 transfer decisions by the Dublin unit, the Dublin Unit sent 9808 requests, 2237 incoming requests were answered by the Dublin Unit In 2022: 4455 transfer decisions by the Dublin unit, the Dublin Unit sent 15052 requests, 2754 incoming requests were answered by the Dublin Unit An average of 48.5 FTE are involved in decision-making. In regards to the decisions made by the Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons (CGRS) (excluding Dublin decisions and other cases closed at the level of the Immigration Office): In 2020: 16.590 first-instance decisions by the CGRS (in persons) In 2021: 22.125 first-instance decisions by the CGRS (in persons) In 2022: 24.222 first-instance decisions by the CGRS (in persons) The CGRS counted (on average for the whole year) 179 FTE in 2020, 193 FTE in 2021 and 195 FTE in 2022.</p> <p>4. Within the Immigration Office: there is no methodology that has been developed since staff members involved in decision-making are also involved in a lot of other tasks that are executed within the Dublin Unit (sending requests, answering incoming requests and information requests, interviews, notifying transfer decisions in person, follow up different workflows,...)</p> <p>Within the CGRS: a methodology to count the number of employees involved in the decision-making has been developed. The number of FTD for example, refers to full-time equivalents involved in the actual case working). The number of FTD does not include quality assurance officers (for each 5 protection officers, there is one 'quality assurance officer' who supervises the output of a protection officer and provides coaching and training). Furthermore, a newly recruited protection officer is counted gradually as an FTD and counts (if working full-time) as 1 FTD from the 7th month after his recruitment. Also, staff</p>
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			involved in long-term projects different from the case working or absent for a longer period (sickness, parental leave, etc..) are not included in this indicator. In addition, a methodology is developed in cooperation with the EUAA at the EU level.
	EMN NCP Bulgaria	Yes	<p>1. The State Agency for Refugees is the only administrative body that conducts the procedure for international protection, examines and takes decisions on the applications of third-country nationals for refugee status or subsidiary protection. The Agency is also competent to register foreigners as applicants for international protection, to issue them temporary documents, to provide their accommodation, food and medical assistance while their applications for protection in the Republic of Bulgaria are being examined.</p> <p>2. The State Agency for Refugees performs the following duties:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Interviewing of asylum seekers; b) Analysis of information on the country of origin of the applicants; c) Preparation of decisions; d) Application of the Dublin Regulation; e) other duties (please list them) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conducts the procedure for family reunification of foreigners granted international protection and foreigners enjoying temporary protection; • independently develops or participates in the preparation of drafts of legislative acts and international agreements related to the protection of foreigners; • performs the functions assigned to it with the Action Plan for temporary protection; • organises the selection and registration of translators/interpreters, as well as their training regarding the specific requirements for translation;


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			<p>e) Issuance of identity documents (including renewals) is a duty of the Directorate "Bulgarian Identity Documents" in the Ministry of Internal Affairs.</p> <p>f) Payment of benefits - Agency for Social Assistance.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>The number of employees in the State Agency for Refugees is 401, which includes, a chairperson, two deputy chairpersons, chief secretary, data protection officer, an information security officer, a financial controller, general administration organised into three directorates, specialised administration organised into three directorates, and 4 territorial units – one in Sofia and three in the country. The number of employees involved in decision-making within the asylum procedure has varied over the years, with an average of around 30 - 50 people.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="551 794 1794 1054"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Number of persons seeking protection</th> <th>Dublin Regulation</th> <th>Refugee status granted</th> <th>Humanitarian status</th> <th>Refusal</th> <th>Procedure terminated</th> <th>Total number of decisions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>3525</td> <td>138</td> <td>105</td> <td>716</td> <td>1374</td> <td>452</td> <td>2785</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021</td> <td>10999</td> <td>135</td> <td>143</td> <td>1876</td> <td>1256</td> <td>2870</td> <td>6280</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022</td> <td>20407</td> <td>173</td> <td>100</td> <td>4273</td> <td>445</td> <td>14474</td> <td>19465</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>4.</p> <p>No</p>	Year	Number of persons seeking protection	Dublin Regulation	Refugee status granted	Humanitarian status	Refusal	Procedure terminated	Total number of decisions	2020	3525	138	105	716	1374	452	2785	2021	10999	135	143	1876	1256	2870	6280	2022	20407	173	100	4273	445	14474	19465
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	<p>EMN NCP Cyprus</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. The Asylum Service of the Ministry of Interior is the competent Authority for the examination of applications for international protection and for the operation of Reception and Accommodation Centers. The Dublin Office also operates within the Asylum Service, which is further divided into sections dealing with EU matters, statistics, legal matters etc (see attached structure).</p>																																

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			<p>ahq2023.33.docx</p> <p>2. (a) (b) (c) (d) The Asylum Service is responsible. (e) The Civil Registry and Migration Department of the Ministry of Interior is responsible. (f) The Deputy Ministry of Welfare is responsible.</p> <p>3. a. In 2020, 16 asylum employees prepared 5398 decisions. b. In 2021, 38 asylum employees prepared 15993 decisions c. In 2022, 35 employees prepared 16005 decisions. d. In 2023, the Asylum Service has 61 case workers. During these years additional case workers of EUAA are seconded to the Asylum Service or directly employed by EUAA. The Dublin Office which operates within the Asylum Service has 5 officers (including registry personnel), while the EUAA has deployed 5 officers (including registry/archive personnel) to support the operation of the Dublin Office.</p> <p>4. There is a target of a certain number of decisions to be issued every month and in order to reach this target the necessary number of employees (permanent or on a contract basis) have been recruited. The same applies for the Dublin Regulation procedures. The targets are set by the Asylum Service in coordination with the competent Ministry of Interior and depending on the migration flows to the country.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Czech</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Department of Asylum and Migration Policy of the Ministry of the Interior is responsible for the asylum procedure.</p>

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	<p>Republic</p>		<p>2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Interviewing of asylum seekers – Department of Asylum and Migration Policy, Ministry of Interior; b) analysis of information on the country of origin of the applicants – Department of Asylum and Migration Policy, Ministry of Interior; c) preparation of decisions – Department of Asylum and Migration Policy, Ministry of Interior; d) application of the Dublin Regulation – Department of Asylum and Migration Policy, Ministry of Interior; e) issuance of identity documents (including renewals) – Department of Asylum and Migration Policy, Ministry of Interior; f) payment of benefits – Refugee Facilities Administration of the Czech Republic provides pocket money and meal allowance while applicants for international protection stay in reception or accommodation centres. The accommodation is provided free of charge as well as food if there is a canteen (if there isn't a canteen, applicants receive meal allowance). Ministry of Health (through a health insurance company) is responsible for health insurance for applicants. g) other duties (please list them) – Foreign Police, in most cases, accepts applications for international protection. They also ensure returns of unsuccessful applicants and provide security in Facilities for the Detention of Foreigners <p>3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In 2020, 43 employees prepared 1455 decisions. b. In 2021, 43 employees prepared 1642 decisions. c. In 2022, 41 employees prepared 1806 decisions. <p>4.</p> <p>There is no methodology in place. Employees are assigned based on state budget possibilities (personal capacities are usually lower than needed).</p>
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EMN NCP Estonia		Yes	<p>1.</p> <p>Estonian Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB) implements State’s migration, asylum and border policies.</p> <p>Ministry of the Interior develops and coordinates the implementation of State’s citizenship, migration, asylum and border control policies. The Ministry also administers and reallocates relevant EU funds (including AMIF).</p> <p>Ministry of Culture develops and coordinates the implementation of State’s integration policies. The Ministry also manages the adaption program called “Settle in Estonia”.</p> <p>Ministry of Social Affairs develops policies regarding social security, social insurance, welfare services, working life and protection of public health and medical care.</p> <p>Social Insurance Board coordinates social welfare services for applicants and beneficiaries of international protection in cooperations with ministries, service providers and local governments.</p> <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs coordinates foreign policy including development coordination (also with third countries) and sanctions, also foreign representations (consulates) and visa policy.</p> <p>Estonian Internal Security Service is in charge of the maintenance of national security through collection of information and implementation of preventive measures as well as investigation of offences. The Service also draws risk analysis/ad hoq analysis related to migration and collects/processes information for the prevention and combating of terrorism.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>Estonian PBGB performs the following duties: examination of asylum applications (asylum application can be submitted to a border guard official in any border point at the state border or, if the TCN is already in Estonia, application can be submitted to the International Protection Division of the PBGB) (by Protection Division); interviewing the asylum seekers (by Protection Division); analysis of COI (previously separate COI Division, now experts are part of the Protection Division); preparation of decisions (by Protection</p>

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		<p>Division); application of the Dublin Regulation (by Protection Division); issuance of identity documents, including renewals.</p> <p>Social Insurance Board is in charge of benefit payments and assists PBGB regarding UAM-s (Child Protection Department).</p> <p>AS Hoolekandeteenused manages two accommodation centres for asylum seekers – Vao centre and Vägeva centre. It also provides necessary services, assistance and counselling regarding everyday life (language training, settling outside of the accommodation centre, registering as unemployed and seeking for employment etc.</p> <p>Estonian Refugee Council (NGO) offers support person service, translation service, group activities, help with family reunification and adaption programme for beneficiaries of international protection.</p> <p>Estonian Human Rights Centre (Partner for UNHCR, NGO) provides legal counselling and free legal aid for applicants and beneficiaries of international protection.</p> <p>3. In 2020: 4 case workers, 224 decisions In 2021: 4 case workers, 181 decisions In 2022: since 01.07.2022 PBGB has case workers for both temporary protection and international protection (including Dublin procedures), altogether 55 and 46 498 decisions have been made. Before 01.07.2022 (for 5 months after the war broke out) reserve officers who received special training regarding asylum procedures, helped with the influx related to Russias aggression against Ukraine.</p> <p>4. Yes – PBGB applies a methodology in which two main aspects are taken into account: the time required for different stages of asylum procedures and different migration forecasts. In a longer term, PBGB also considers IT developments that help to automate certain sections of the workload related to asylum procedures.</p>
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+	EMN NCP Finland	No	
+	EMN NCP France	Yes	<p>1. In order to lodge an asylum application in France, the asylum seeker applies to a first reception facility for asylum seekers (SPADA), which will inform him/her about the asylum procedure and make an appointment to the territorially competent one-stop-shop for asylum seekers. The one-stop-shop is responsible for registering the asylum application, determining the applicable procedure, assessing vulnerability and allocating material reception conditions (accommodation, asylum allowance) under certain conditions.</p> <p>The one-stop shop is made up of staff from the prefecture and officials of the French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII). There are 33 one-stop-shops spread across metropolitan France. The one-stop shop appointment is divided into two stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a first step with the prefecture officials to register the application; • a second step with OFII staff to assess special needs and define the arrangements for taking charge. <p>After having validated all the information sent to the one-stop shop by the first reception structure, a prefecture officer will determine whether France is responsible for examining the asylum application. if the examination of your asylum application is likely to be the responsibility of another Member State, the so-called Dublin III procedure is implemented. The prefecture will then take steps with that State to ask it to take charge of the asylum seeker. A certificate of application for asylum is then sent, authorising him to keep you on French territory until the transfer to the State which has recognised its responsibility. This transfer will be organised by the prefecture, which will notify a transfer decision specifying the departure arrangements.</p> <p>The OFII is responsible for material reception conditions consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an Asylum Allowance (ADA), paid monthly, the amount of which varies according to the family composition

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accommodation in a dedicated facility <p>If France is responsible for examining your asylum application, it is the French office for the protection of refugees and stateless persons (OFPRA) which is competent to examine it under the normal or accelerated procedure.</p> <p>If the application for asylum is rejected by the OFPRA, an appeal may be lodged with the National Asylum Court (CNDA).</p> <p>2.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interviewing of asylum seekers: the OFPRA 2. analysis of information on the country of origin of the applicants: the OFPRA; 3. preparation of decisions: the OFPRA; 4. application of the Dublin Regulation: the Prefectures; 5. issuance of identity documents (including renewals): the OFII for issuance and renewal of related temporary residence permit; 6. payment of benefits: the OFII; 7. the OFII for the housing conditions. <p>3. a. In 2020, the OFPRA employment ceiling was increased to 1 005 full-time equivalent number of workers and 987 full-time equivalent number of workers prepared 89 774 decisions;</p> <p>b. In 2021, the OFPRA employment authorisation ceiling was set at 1 003 full-time equivalent number of workers under the Finance Act 2021 and 995 full-time equivalent number of workers at the end of the year prepared 139 810 decisions.</p> <p>c. In 2022, the OFPRA employment authorisation ceiling is set at 1 003 full-time equivalent number of workers under the Finance Act for 2022 and 995 full-time equivalent number of workers at the end of the financial year prepared 134 513 decisions.</p>
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4. The increase in the number of persons responsible for examining asylum applications is calculated to allow them to be processed within the target time limit. Thus, a target of 60 days was set in the annual performance project (PAP) for the end of 2023.

Against a backdrop of a persistent increase in asylum applications, the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA) has benefited from a successive increase in its human and financial resources since 2015 to enable it to cope with the increase in activity and to reduce the stock of applications.

A very significant increase in the resources of the OFPRA and the National Asylum Court (CNDA) was made in 2019 and 2020, with the OFPRA increasing by a quarter of its human resources, thanks to the increase in its maximum number of posts (150 protection officers for examining asylum applications and 50 investigative support posts to be assigned to the support and logistics services), and with 59 additional posts for the CNDA, including 30 rapporteur posts.


The new organisation of the OFPRA, introduced following the creation of 200 new jobs in 2020 with the reorganisation of the geographical divisions, makes it possible to pool teams, reduce the number of pending requests and cope with a possible resumption of flows. This increased the decision-making capacity of the Office. The average processing time for the OFPRA in August 2022 was 140 days, which was a significant improvement compared to the deadlines observed since 2018.

As regards the French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII), its staff increased by 20 % in 2016, by almost 5 % in 2017, by 4 % in 2018, and by 9 % in 2019, to carry out its tasks fully in the context of a major migration crisis and increasing flows of asylum seekers.

Similarly, in order to cope with a very significant increase in the number of appeals, linked to the increase in asylum applications, the National Asylum Court (CNDA) has also seen its staffing increase. To this end, 25 new posts were created in 2016, 40 in 2017, 102 in 2018, 103 in 2019, 59 in 2020, 184 in 2021 and 104 in 2022. This increase in staff enables it to make a larger number of decisions within shorter deadlines.

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	EMN NCP Germa ny	Yes	<p>1. The asylum procedure including the granting of asylum is regulated in the Asylum Act (AsylG., you will find in English at: https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_asylvfg/englisch_asylvfg.htm...).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arrival: Asylum seekers arriving in Germany must report to a <u>state organization</u> directly on arrival or immediately thereafter. Anyone who does not make a request for asylum until they are in Germany can report to a <u>security authority</u> (such as the police), an <u>immigration authority</u>, a <u>reception facility</u> or directly to an <u>arrival centre</u>. 2. Registration: All asylum seekers are registered by the German <u>Federal States</u>. However, there are exceptions, e.g. unaccompanied minors and people in detention. In these cases, the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) takes over and carries out the registration when the Asylum seeker appears at a branch of BAMF. 3. Initial distribution and accommodation: All asylum-seekers are received in a nearby reception facility of the <u>federal state</u> that is responsible. The Federal states shall be required to set up and maintain reception centres necessary to accommodate persons requesting asylum and to provide the necessary number of places in the reception centres for newly arrived persons requesting asylum per month allocated to them on the basis of their respective admission quotas (section 44 Asylum Act). The reception facility is responsible for providing food and board for the asylum seekers. 4. Personal asylum application: A personal application is filed within a branch office of the <u>Federal Office for Migration and Refugees</u> assigned to the reception center responsible for receiving the foreigner, except in cases when a written application is possible (e.g. when an applicant is in detention or in the hospital, in accordance with §14 Abs. 2 AsylG). 5. Examining the Dublin Procedure: <u>The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees</u> determines according to the Dublin procedure which MS is responsible prior to the actual examination of the asylum application. 6. The personal interview: <u>The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees</u> conducts the personal interview with the applicant.
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			<p>7. Decision-making: <u>The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees</u> decides on the asylum application on the basis of the personal interview and of a detailed examination of documents and items of evidence. (Section 5 of the Asylum Act)</p> <p>8. Appeals against the decision: The applicants can take court action against the decision of the Federal Office. <u>The court</u> then examines the decision which the Federal Office has taken.</p> <p>2. a) Interviewing of asylum seekers: Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF). BAMF shall clarify the facts of the case and compile the necessary evidence. BAMF is also obliged to interview the foreigner in person. (Section 24 Asylum Act).</p> <p>b) analysis of information on the country of origin of the applicants: Federal Office for Migration and Refugees. The Information Centre for Asylum and Migration (IZAM) is the central facility of BAMF providing specialist information. It provides a broad spectrum of information on migrants' countries of origin and transit as well as on the countries hosting them, and on developments in migration. For the asylum case officers, it is possible to access the Asylum and Migration Information Centre and its database system. Research can be carried out over and above this, for instance by making individual enquiries to the Federal Foreign Office, carrying out language and text analyses, physical and technical document examination, as well as obtaining medical or other reports. Guidelines for the most important countries of origin provide assistance in decision-making.</p> <p>c) preparation of decisions: Federal Office for Migration and Refugees. BAMF decides on the asylum application on the basis of the personal interview and of a detailed examination of documents and items of evidence. This is the task of the asylum case officers at BAMF. They examine asylum applications, which comprises both the important personal interview, as well as the subsequent decision on the asylum applications.</p>
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		<p>d) application of the Dublin Regulation: Federal Office for Migration and Refugees. The examination of the asylum application also includes checking whether another country is responsible for conducting the asylum procedure (section 29 Asylum Act). This particularly includes the processing of the Dublin III Regulation. BAMF is therefore also the responsible authority for reviewing and determining Germany's responsibility in accordance with the Dublin III Regulation.</p> <p>e) issuance of identity documents (including renewals): German Federal States. Foreigners seeking asylum shall be permitted to remain in the federal territory while the asylum procedure is pending. BAMF shall be responsible for issuing the certificate confirming permission to remain pending the asylum decision while the foreigner is required to reside in a reception centre. Otherwise, responsibility shall lie with the local foreigners' authority to whose district the permission to remain pending the asylum decision is limited or in whose district the foreigner has to take up residence. A foreigner is granted a temporary residence permit if he or she received international protection (section 25 Residence Act). For this residence-related measure solely the local foreigners' authorities of the federal states are responsible (Section 71 Residence Act). (The Residence Act you will find in English at: https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_aufenthg/englisch_aufenthg.h...)</p> <p>f) payment of benefits: German Federal States. According to the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act (https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/asylblg/index.html#BJNR107410993BJNE0...) Asylum seekers and applicants mainly receive benefits in kind during their stay in reception centres, but also a monthly amount of money to cover their everyday personal needs (section 3 Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act). The federal states are responsible for the payment (section 10 Asylum-Seekers' Benefits Act).</p> <p>g) other duties: The personal data are recorded during the application procedure if this has not already taken place, for instance when the proof of arrival was issued. BAMF uses physical and technical document examination to assess the original documents to be submitted.</p>
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			<p>If the foreigner is not granted asylum, BAMF shall issue a written deportation warning or in case of a deportation to a safe third country order his deportation to this country (section 34, 34a Asylum Act). Carrying out the removal after a negative asylum procedure is not the responsibility of BAMF. Rather, each Federal State is to designate a central body responsible for enforcing removals. Also, the local police forces of the Federal States are responsible for removals and, where necessary to prepare and safeguard these measures, for arrests and for applying for custody. (Section 71 Residence Act). After the application has been filed, it shall also be the responsibility of BAMF to decide whether a ban on removal exists which refers to the country of destination (section 24 Asylum Act, section 60 Residence Act).</p> <p>For as long as removal is impossible in fact or in law which refers to Germany, for example due to illness, generally local foreigners' authorities are responsible (section 60a Residence Act).</p> <p>3. a. In 2020 3681 asylum case officers prepared 145.071 decisions. b. In 2021 3237 asylum case officers prepared 149.954 decisions. c. In 2022 3307 asylum case officers prepared 228.673 decisions.</p> <p>4. In Germany, the determination of personnel requirements in the federal administration is regulated uniformly and bindingly in the organization handbook of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community. The personnel requirements for decision-making in the asylum procedure, including in the context of the Dublin Regulation, are based on the methodology specified there. The analytical calculation method is primarily used. In areas where this is not applicable, the analytical estimation method is used. In both methods, the personnel requirement is determined by multiplying the average processing time by the number of cases to be processed and then dividing by the annual working time.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1.</p>

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	<p>Greece</p>		<p>Persons may express their intention to apply for international protection orally or in writing to any Greek Authority, including at all legal points of entry at the border and at the airport/port transit zones, at the Regional Asylum Offices and Asylum Units (see List) and at Reception and Identification Centers (see List). Their intention to apply is transferred before the competent asylum authority, in order to be registered/lodged and examined. In particular:</p> <p><u>A. Asylum Service</u></p> <p>According to Presidential Decree 106/2020 (Organization of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, GG A'255), as in force, Asylum Service operates on a Directorate General level with local competence throughout Greece, retains the strategic goal of implementing the legislation on asylum and other forms of international protection of Third Country Nationals and stateless individuals. It is the country's competent authority in planning and policy making in the process of granting asylum or other forms of international protection, as well as in monitoring and evaluating its implementation.</p> <p>Additionally, for applications lodged after the 7th of June 2013, the Asylum Service is one of the competent authorities for making, registering, and lodging international protection applications and the only authority for examining them and deciding on first instance. The Asylum Service, as a Directorate General, falls under the General Secretary of Migration Policy of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum. The Asylum Service is divided in 5 Directorates, with smaller departments and offices in each directorate, as follows:</p> <p>MINISTRY OF MIGRATION AND ASYLUM GENERAL SECRETARY OF</p>
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			<p>MIGRATION POLICY</p> <p>ASYLUM SERVICE -à Director & Subdirector</p> <p>Directorate of Administration Support responsible for the planning, monitoring and the supervision of the implementation of the national asylum policy in cooperation with the other Directorates of the Asylum Service, as well as</p> <p>Directorate of Regional Services</p> <p>Attica Directorate</p> <p>Aegean Islands Directorate</p> <p>Directorate of Returns and Withdrawals responsible for the coordination, monitoring and reporting of readmission, return, deportation or relocation procedures in cooperation with other competent national or international institutions and organizations, as well as the participation and representation before International and European institutions and the support of other Directorates of Asylum Service on return and status revocation issues.</p>
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			ensuring the proper role implementation of the Greek Asylum Service, in cooperation with the competent General Directorates of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, other competent authorities, independent authorities and non-governmental organizations, EU and international organizations Regional Asylum Offices and
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			<p>Asylum Units, within the limits of <u>their local competence</u>, apply the legislation on international protection and, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Fingerprint applicants for international protection-register and examine applications for international protection-register appeals and forward them to the Appeals Authority
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			<p>-inform the applicants of international protection about the examination process of their applications, and about their rights and obligations</p> <p>-supply the applicants of international protection, as well as the beneficiaries of international protection, with documentation and travel documents</p>	
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		<p>-facilitate applicants for international protection in terms of reception conditions in cooperation with other competent bodies</p> <p>-perform any other responsibility assigned to them by law.</p>	<p>Department of Thessaloniki Attica Regional Lesvo Department for the coordination of returns from the Dublin Nation Regional As Asylum Office s mainland and voluntary returns al Unit ylum Office Regional Asylum Office</p>
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			<p>Department of Thrace European Regional Programs and Asylum Funding Office Monitoring</p> <p>Department of Western Mobile Asylum Units</p> <p>Department of Administrative Support and Protocol</p>	<p>Piraeus Regional Asylum Office (for Afghans nationals)</p> <p>Alimos Regional Asylum Office (for stateless Palestinians, Syrians- except fast-track-, Sub-Saharan countries)</p> <p>Amygdaleza Asylum Unit of (detainees detention facilities, except detention</p>	<p>Chios Regional Asylum Office</p> <p>Samos Regional Asylum Office</p> <p>Leros Regional Asylum Office</p>	<p>Department for the coordination of returns from the islands</p> <p>Department of status revocation and exclusion. Additionally, responsible for: -International Protection Status revocation procedure; -Providing opinion on exclusion clauses, in cooperation with the Department of Legal Affairs of Office granting asylum or other forms of international protection of the Directorate of Legal Support of Asylum and Reception, during decision-making on first instance and during renewal procedure following a specific request by the competent office on a case-by case basis.</p>
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			<p>facilities with their own AU/RAO)</p> <p>Department Xanthi Nikaia Asylum Rhod of Processes Asylum Unit Unit es and Training (for (issuance Regio detainees at of firstnal Border instance Asylu Police pending m Department decisions andOffice of Kotyli) delivery of TDV)</p> <p>Fylakio Asylum UnitKos Asylum Unit for Fast-Regional Track Asylum Office applications Responsible for examining international protection applications which fall under the local jurisdiction</p>
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			<p>of the Regional Asylum Office of Attica and are submitted -by Syrian nationals and stateless individuals with Syria as former place of habitual residence, whose nationality or statelessnes s is proved by original documents, especially with Syrian passport or -by Syrian nationals</p>
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			<p>and stateless individuals with Syria as former place of habitual residence, whose Citizenship or statelessnes s has been established by the competent authorities and who have been excluded from the extraordinar y border procedure. Corinth Asylum Unit of Asylum UnitInternational (for Protection detainees atApplications of</p>
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		<p>Corinth Pre-Pakistani removal nationals Centre and prisoners at Nafplio, Tirynth and Tripoli prison facilities) Ioannina Asylum Unit Asylum Unit of (for detainees Beneficiarie in Ipiross of and CoInternational rfu detentionProtection facilities and residents in Ipiros and Corfu camp facilities) Asylum UnitAsylum Unit for Nationals of SafeInternational Countries ofProtection Origins Applicants under custody/in</p>
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		<p style="text-align: center;">prison facilities</p> <p>Paranesti Attica Asylum Unit Vulnerable (for detai Groups needs in Asylum Unit Paranesti Dramas Pre- removal Centre)</p> <p>B.Reception and Identification Service -All third-country nationals (TCN) and stateless persons, who enter the country without legal formalities are subject to reception and identification procedures. These persons are immediately taken to a Reception and Identification Center or a Closed Controlled Access Centre, under the responsibility of the police or coast guard that are duly involved. The application may be registered/ lodged by the Regional Reception and Identification Services. (Art. 1 par. iz, Art. 38 and 69, L. 4939/2022). -Third-country nationals who haven't undergone reception and identification procedures, shall go through the uniform registration process of initial applications within the Reception and Identification Center of Malakasa and Diavata under the responsibility of the Reception and Identification Service (<u>Circular No. 411695/24-11-21</u> & Circular No. 504912/31-08-2022). This does not apply to the applicants before RAO Fylakio (Evros) which receives applications from TCNs arriving in Greece through Evros land borders and RAOs in the islands that receive applications from TCN arriving in Greece through Aegean Sea borders.</p> <p>C.Hellenic Police or Armed Forces Authorities</p>
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			<p>-For applications lodged before the 7th of June 2013, the Greek Police was the competent authority on first instance for making, registering, lodging, examining international protection applications and deciding on them, and in particular the Asylum Departments of the Alien's Police Directorates of Athens and Thessaloniki, the Security Departments of Police Directorates of the Athens International Airport and Thessaloniki International Airport and the Security Sub-directorates or Departments of the local competent Police Directorates, which function under the General Secretary of Public Order of the Ministry of Citizen Protection. The abovementioned departments of the Greek Police remain competent for the international protection application which were pending on the 7th of June 2023 and the renewal of the residence permits that had been granted by them.</p> <p>-Personnel of the Hellenic Police or of the Armed Forces may assist the registration/ lodging procedure under the exceptional border procedure (in case of mass arrivals). The exceptional border procedure applies in case of mass influx following a relevant Ministerial Decision. Such a Ministerial Decision is no longer in force.</p> <p>-Personnel of the Hellenic Police or the Armed Forces may conduct personal interviews on eligibility under the exceptional border procedure (in case of mass arrivals), if this staff has previously received the necessary basic training, in particular in International Human Rights Law, the European Union acquis on asylum and interview techniques. (Article 82 par. 2, L. 4939/2022).</p> <p>-The personal interview for the admissibility of the application for international protection may be conducted in particularly exceptional circumstances, by staff of the Hellenic Police or of the Armed Forces, as long as these staff have previously received the necessary basic training, in particular in International Human Rights Law, the European Union acquis on asylum and interview techniques. (article 82 par.1, L. 4939/2022).</p> <p>D.EUAA staff</p>
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		<p>-If there is an urgent need, the Greek Asylum Service may be assisted by Greek-speaking staff provided by EUAA, which will provide any technical and operational assistance for any administrative action relating to the implementation of international protection applications. (Art 69 par. 16 L. 4939/2022)</p> <p>-The personal interview for the admissibility of the application for international protection may be conducted by EUAA staff, as long as these staff have previously received the necessary basic training, in particular in International Human Rights Law, the EU acquis on asylum and interview techniques. (article 82 par.1, L. 4939/2022).</p> <p>-EUAA staff may conduct personal interviews on eligibility under the exceptional border procedure (in case of mass arrivals), if this staff has previously received the necessary basic training, in particular in International Human Rights Law, the European Union acquis on asylum and interview techniques. (Article 82 par. 2, L. 4939/2022).</p> <p>-Under EUAA- GAS bilateral agreements, EUAA staff who conducts interviews may proceed with the provision of opinion on the case regarding granting or not international protection.</p> <p>E.Other</p> <p>-Interpretation services are mostly provided by NGO Metadrasi (MetAction).</p> <p>-UNHCR has access to information on individual applications for international protection, the progress of the procedure and the decisions taken, provided that the applicant agrees. It shall present its views in the exercise of its activities under Article 35 of the Geneva Conventions before the Competent Authorities concerning applications for international protection at any stage of the proceedings. (article 71, L. 4939/2022).</p> <p>PS: The above mentioned table is attached below in case it is not properly transferred in the space available above. ministry_of_migration_and_asylum_table.docx</p> <p>2.</p>
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		<p>1. <u>Interviewing of asylum seekers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek Asylum Service (RAOs/AUs), • EUAA staff (admissibility after basic training/ eligibility under exceptional border procedure and after basic training), • Hellenic Police or Armed Forces staff (admissibility in particularly exceptional circumstances and after basic training/ eligibility under exceptional border procedure and after basic training), <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. analysis of information on the country of origin of the applicants; COI Unit, caseworkers 2. preparation of decisions; EUAA staff opinion, Rapporteurs- Asylum Caseworker Assistants Registry (art. 50 L. 4686/2020), caseworkers of RAOs/AUs 3. application of the Dublin Regulation; Department of Dublin National Unit 4. issuance of identity documents (including renewals); RAOs/AUs, Asylum Unit of Beneficiaries of International Protection (for renewals) 5. payment of benefits; Reception and Identification Service 6. <u>other duties (please list them). N/A</u> <p>3. In 2021, the Greek Asylum Service (GAS) had 280 caseworkers employed by GAS and 58 caseworkers seconded by EUAA (Total: 338 caseworkers on decision-making). In 2022, GAS had 314 caseworkers employed by GAS and 64 caseworkers seconded by EUAA (Total: 378 caseworkers on decision-making). Moreover, according to the competent Directorate of ICT in the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, the following total number of decisions have been issued at first instance for the years 2020-22:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #444; color: white;">Type of decisions -1st Instance</th> <th>2020</th> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Refugee Status/Subsidiary Protection Status</td> <td>34277</td> <td>16568</td> <td>19232</td> <td>70077</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Negative decisions in substance</td> <td>22815</td> <td>10992</td> <td>11640</td> <td>45447</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inadmissible decisions (subsequent applications/safe third country)</td> <td>4927</td> <td>9579</td> <td>7734</td> <td>22240</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inadmissible decisions (Dublin regulation)</td> <td>4436</td> <td>2638</td> <td>1212</td> <td>8286</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type of decisions -1st Instance	2020	2021	2022	Total	Refugee Status/Subsidiary Protection Status	34277	16568	19232	70077	Negative decisions in substance	22815	10992	11640	45447	Inadmissible decisions (subsequent applications/safe third country)	4927	9579	7734	22240	Inadmissible decisions (Dublin regulation)	4436	2638	1212	8286
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			<p>Explicit/ Implicit withdrawals/Archived Cases 5096 14727 13014 32837</p> <p>Total 71551 54504 52832 178887</p> <p>4. Such a methodology has not been developed.</p>
	EMN NCP Hungary	Yes	<p>1. In Hungary, the competent authority for asylum procedures is the National Directorate-General for Aliens Policing (hereinafter: Directorate-General). Within the Asylum Directorate of Directorate-General there are two units, the Asylum Unit and the Reception Facilities' Supervisory Unit. The Asylum Unit is responsible for preparing decisions on asylum cases, the Reception Facilities' Supervisory Unit is responsible for refugee care. Within the latter unit, there are three facilities: the Városszabadi Reception Centre, the Balassagyarmat Community Shelter and the Nyírbátor Asylum Detention Centre.</p> <p>The Dublin Coordination Unit is located within the Department of International Affairs. This Unit is responsible for sending and answering requests under the Dublin Regulation. Once a decision has been reached, the procedure is handled by another competent unit/department.</p> <p>2. The Asylum Unit is responsible for interviewing asylum seekers, analysing information on the applicants' country of origin, examining applications for asylum, drafting decisions and representing the asylum authority at the court.</p> <p>Responsibilities of the the Reception Facilities' Supervisory Unit are: issuing some identity documents, preparing payment of benefits, care of refugees and applicants in reception centres.</p>

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			<p>The Dublin Coordination Unit is responsible for the application of the Dublin Regulation.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>Directorate-General Asylum Directorate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In 2020 23 employees prepared 504 decisions, b. In 2021 23 employees prepared 612 decisions, c. In 2022 19 employees prepared 201 decisions. <p>The number of decisions in 2022 does not contain the decisions issued in temporary protection procedures in connection with the war in Ukraine.</p> <p>Directorate-General Dublin Coordination Unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In 2020 4 employees prepared 1841 decisions, b. In 2021 4 employees prepared 1441 decisions, c. In 2022 3 employees prepared 1675 decisions. <p>Here are indicated all the decisions made under the Dublin Regulation (decisions on incoming requests as well as decisions made in outgoing cases).</p> <p>4. NO</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Italy</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. In Italy, the authorities involved in asylum procedures are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Border police offices and Questure (Police Headquarters) within the Ministry of Interior – Public Security Department (responsible for receiving international protection applications). - The Dublin Unit within the Ministry of Interior - Civil Liberties and Immigration Department (responsible for determining which State is responsible for examining international protection applications).

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commissions and Territorial Sections for the recognition of international protection, coordinated by the National Commission for the right to Asylum within the Ministry of Interior (responsible for examining international protection applications). - Dedicated section of Courts regarding immigration, international protection, and the right to free movement within the European Union, under the Minister of Justice (responsible for appeals against decisions at first instance). <p>2. a) Officials in service at the Commissions/Territorial Sections b) Country of Origin Information Unit at National Commission for the right to asylum c) Officials in service at the Commissions/Territorial Sections d) Dublin Unit which is located at the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration (Ministry of Interior) e) Questure (Police Headquarter) f) - g) -</p> <p>3. National Commission for the right to Asylum: 2020 – number of decisions adopted 42.604 – no. of employees at the Commissions/Territorial sections 422 2021 – number of decisions adopted 51.931 – no. of employees at the Commissions/Territorial sections 394 2022 – number of decisions adopted 58.478 – no. of employees at the Commissions/Territorial sections 354 Dublin Unit: 2022 – number of decisions adopted 2.414 – no. of employees 5</p>
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			<p>Data from previous years are not available.</p> <p>4. Under the asylum procedure, the needs for employees for the Territorial Commissions/Sections are determined on the basis of needs (about 1 President and 7/8 officer instructors for each of the 41 Italian Colleges), which, however, may be reassessed in light of new demands or needs.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Latvia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. State Border guard performs the following duties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Registration of asylum application 1.2. Identification of the asylum seeker, including taking fingerprints 1.3. Initial interview of the asylum seeker 1.4. Detention <p>Duties of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.5. Accommodation of asylum seekers 1.6. Making/taking of all forms of decisions within the asylum procedure 1.7. Issuance of identity documents for persons who have acquired status, issuance of residence permits, renewal <p>2. Employees of the Asylum Affairs Division of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs perform the following duties related to decision-making within the framework of the asylum procedure, including in the context of the Dublin Regulation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Interviewing of asylum seekers (including preparation for the interview) – OCMA Asylum Division 2.2. Collection and analysis of information on the country of origin - OCMA Asylum Division 2.3. Making/taking of decisions - OCMA Asylum Division 2.4. Application of Dublin Regulation - OCMA Asylum Division, except transfers Collection and exchange of statistics - OCMA Asylum Division

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			<p>2.5. Other duties:</p> <p>2.5.1. Issuance of identity documents for persons who have acquired status (including issuance of repeat residence permits) - OCMA Asylum Division and Territorial unit</p> <p>2.5.2. Payment of the single financial support for persons who have acquired status - OCMA Asylum Division and Financial Management Division</p> <p>2.5.3. Submission of applicant file/ documents to the court - OCMA Asylum Division</p> <p>2.5.4. Ensuring cooperation with EUAA - OCMA Asylum Division</p> <p>3. In 2020 8 employees prepared 288 decisions. In 2021 8 employees prepared 891 decisions. In 2022 8 employees prepared 1028 decisions.</p> <p>4. No methodology.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Lithuania</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. The State Border Guard Service under the Ministry of the Interior performs initial actions and provides accommodation for asylum seekers until a decision regarding their status is reached. The Migration Department under the Ministry of the Interior performs initial actions (in some cases) and is responsible for carrying out the asylum application examination procedure. The Refugees' Reception Center under the Ministry of Social Security and Labor provides accommodation to asylum seekers (in some cases) and refugees and is responsible for their integration. The State Child Rights Protection and Adoption Agency under the Ministry of Social Security and Labor is involved when asylum seekers are unaccompanied minors.</p>


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		<p>2. a) The initial interview is conducted by the State Border Guard Service or the Migration Department (if the asylum application is lodged within the territory of Lithuania). The Migration Department conducts another interview during the examination of the asylum application.</p> <p>b) Migration Department</p> <p>c) Migration Department</p> <p>d) the Migration Department issues decisions and carries out correspondence, while the State Border Guard Service ensures the physical transfer of foreigners.</p> <p>e) Migration Department</p> <p>f) The State Border Guard Service is responsible for asylum seekers. The Ministry of Social Security and Labor becomes responsible once an asylum seeker is granted protection. Some benefits may be paid by the municipality in which the refugee decides to settle.</p> <p>3. No data on the number of employees involved in decision-making is available.</p> <p>In 2020, the following decisions were made: granted refugee status - 80; granted subsidiary protection - 1; denied asylum - 266; terminated application processing - 254; not processed applications - 6; transferred individuals under the Dublin III Regulation - 13.</p> <p>In 2021, the following decisions were made: granted refugee status - 443; granted subsidiary protection - 8; denied asylum - 2768; terminated application processing - 532; not processed applications - 2; transferred individuals under the Dublin III Regulation - 30. In 2021, during the mass influx of foreigners from Belarus, the Migration Department created an additional 56 jobs; however, most of these employees were not involved in decision-making.</p> <p>In 2022, the following decisions were made: granted refugee status - 316; granted subsidiary protection - 21; denied asylum - 548; terminated application processing - 733; not processed applications - 6; transferred individuals under the Dublin III Regulation - 47.</p>
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			<p>4. The number of applications remained relatively stable and did not change significantly. With the onset of the crisis in 2021, additional temporary positions were established at the Migration Department, and new staff members were hired. However, in 2022, additional temporary positions were eliminated. The workload of employees is evaluated based on application submission trends, and appropriate decisions are made as needed.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Luxem bourg</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. The Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs is the main institution involved in the asylum procedure. The Directorate of Immigration comprises various services, notably the Department for foreigners, the Department for refugees and the Department for returns. It also has a European affairs Department and a legal Department.</p> <p>The Department for refugees is responsible for registering and handling international protection requests.</p> <p>The Grand-ducal Police is responsible for verifying the applicant's identity and itinerary before arriving in Luxembourg. In this context, applicants for international protection will be interviewed by a police officer. Their fingerprints will be taken and, if deemed necessary, a physical search may take place</p> <p>2. a) The Department for refugees : unit for personal interviews (auditions) and Grand-ducal Police (see above). b) The Department for refugees : unit country of origin information c) The Department for refugees: unit for decisions d) The Department for refugees: Dublin Unit e) • The Department for refugees issues the certificate to AIPs who have submitted their application for international protection. The renewal of the certificate is to be requested each month in person at the desk of the Department for refugees.</p>


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		<p>• If the applicant will benefit from international protection (refugee status or subsidiary protection), they will be invited by ministerial letter to make an appointment online to present themselves at the Directorate of immigration to provide their biometric data (photos and digital fingerprints) in order to obtain their residence permit.</p> <p>f) During the asylum procedure, the National Reception Office ("Office national de l'accueil", ONA) grants the assistance in kind, cash or vouchers. The ONA will take care of the registration of the AIP with the National Health Fund ("Caisse nationale de santé", CNS) and pay the monthly contributions.</p> <p>g)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Healthcare Service for Refugees: Before the definitive registration at the CNS, the AIP will have to complete a three-month probationary period. Before this period expires, they will not be eligible for reimbursement from the CNS. If they need to see a doctor during your probationary period, they must go to the Healthcare Service for Refugees • The Department for refugees and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) for assisted voluntary return: The AIP who decides to return to their country of origin or to any other country where they are permitted to stay, have to contact the Department for refugees and/or International Organisation for Migration (IOM). <p>3. a. In 2020 (number of employees: N/A, but approximately the same number as in 2022) prepared 1543 decisions.</p> <p>b. In 2021 (number of employees: N/A, but approximately the same number as in 2022) prepared 1490 decisions.</p> <p>c. In 2022, 14 employees prepared 1914 decisions.</p> <p>4. No.</p>
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	EMN NCP Nether lands	Yes	<p>1. In the Netherlands, the duties regarding the asylum procedure are divided between four institutions: the Aliens Police Department, Identification and Human Trafficking (Afdeling Vreemdelingenpolitie, Identificatie en Mensenhandel - AVIM), the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (Immigratie- en Naturalisatiedienst - IND), the Repatriation and Departure Service (Dienst Terugkeer en Vertrek - DT&V) and the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (Centraal Orgaan opvang asielzoekers - COA). These institutions are involved in the asylum procedure and the examination of an asylum application.</p> <p>An asylum seeker in the Netherlands must report to the IND's Application Centre (Aanmeldcentrum - AC) in Ter Apel. That is where the AVIM is located. The AVIM registers personal data, such as name, date of birth and nationality. The AVIM also takes fingerprints from all asylum seekers. The AVIM is part of the national police.[1]</p> <p>At the AC, the asylum seeker signs its asylum application. An interview with the IND follows to establish its identity, nationality and travel route. After the application, the IND determines which procedure applies.</p> <p>On the basis of information provided by the AVIM, the IND may start a Dublin procedure if a person is already registered as an asylum seeker in another Member State, has been issued with a Schengen visa in another country or has irregularly crossed the border into another Member State. Subsequently, in this case, the DT&V is responsible for transferring the asylum seeker to the responsible Member State for examining the application for international protection.[2] DT&V is likewise responsible for returning asylum seekers who have received a negative decision regarding their asylum application.</p> <p>The COA is responsible for the reception and guidance of asylum seekers in the Netherlands. This organisation is equipped with the following tasks, among others: providing accommodation for asylum seekers; providing for medical examination; planning of the asylum procedure; guiding asylum seekers towards a future in the Netherlands or abroad; acquiring and managing reception locations; maintaining safety and quality of life in the reception locations, and providing asylum seekers with necessary resources.[3]</p>
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		<p>[1] Rijksoverheid, 'Hoe verloopt het aanvragen van asiel?', https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/asielbeleid/vraag-en-antwoord/procedure-asielzoeker, last accessed on 16 August 2023.</p> <p>[2] Dienst Terugkeer en Vertrek, 'Behandelsporen', https://www.dienstterugkeerenvertrek.nl/over-dtv/leidraad-terugkeer-en-vertrek/de-asielprocedure/behandelsporen, last accessed on 16 August 2023.</p> <p>[3] Centraal Orgaan opvang asielzoekers, 'Het recht op opvang', https://www.coa.nl/nl/het-recht-op-opvang#:~:text=het%20eetgeld%20lager.-,Leefgeld,%E2%82%AC%2012%2C95%20per%20week, last accessed on 16 August 2023.</p> <p>2.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IND (interview / decision officer) 2. IND (interview / decision officer) 3. IND (interview / decision officer) 4. IND (interview / decision officer) 5. IND (Identity and Document Investigation Unit) 6. COA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The COA is responsible for the payment of benefits, as well as public transport tickets for travel to and from the legal aid provider and the coverage of the costs of medical benefits in accordance with a health care plan to be established for that purpose; (third-party) insurance against the financial consequences of civil liability; and the payment of extraordinary expenses.[1] 1. COA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for providing accommodation for asylum seekers; providing for access to legal aid; providing for medical examination; planning of the asylum procedure; guiding asylum seekers towards a future in the Netherlands or abroad; undertaking recreational activities; acquiring and managing reception locations; maintaining safety and quality of life in the reception locations, and providing asylum seekers with necessary resources.
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		<p>Council for Legal Aid (Raad voor de Rechtsbijstand - RvR):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for organising the provision of subsidised legal aid to asylum seekers.[2] <p>[1] Article 9 of the Regulation on benefits for asylum seekers and other categories of aliens 2005 (Rva) 2005.</p> <p>[2] Article 7, 8, 15 and 17 of the Legal Aid Act (Wrb) 2023 in conjunction with Legal aid measure policy on legal aid asylum and immigration detention 2017.</p> <p>https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0040221/2017-11-23#:~:text=De%20Wet%20op%20de%20rechtsbijstand%20(Wrb)%20draagt%20het%20bestuur%20van,%2C%20waaronder%20asielzoekers%2C%20te%20organiseren, last accessed on 17 August 2023.</p> <p>3.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In 2020, 1514 employees[1] prepared 31.670 decisions. Of total, this concerned 16.210 decisions on granting or refusing refugee or alternative status; 4.410 decisions on transfer to the responsible EU Member State in accordance with the Dublin Regulation; 1.660 decisions in procedure of asylum seekers from safe countries; 5970 decisions on journey in connection with family reunification; 3420 decisions on family reunification for unaccompanied minors.[2] 2. In 2021, 1400 employees prepared 42.770 decisions. Of total, this concerned 22.140 decisions on granting or refusing refugee or alternative status; 2880 decisions on transfer to the responsible EU Member State in accordance with the Dublin Regulation; 1180 decisions in procedure of asylum seekers from safe countries; 12.780 decisions on journey in connection with family reunification; 3790 decisions on family reunification for unaccompanied minors. 3. In 2022, 1578 employees prepared 42.610 decisions. Of total, this concerned 23.890 decisions on granting or refusing refugee or alternative status; 2880 decisions on transfer to the responsible EU Member State in accordance with the Dublin Regulation; 1030 decisions in procedure of asylum seekers from safe countries; 10.880 decisions on journey in connection with family reunification; 3930 decisions on family reunification for unaccompanied minors. <p>[1] Number of employees of the Asylum and Protection Department of the IND, on 31-12 of each year.</p>
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			<p>[2] IND, 'Jaarcijfers 2022', https://ind.nl/nl/documenten/02-2023/tabel-nl-2022.pdf, last accessed on 30 August 2023.</p> <p>4. Due to practical reasons, there has not been formally developed a methodology to calculate the necessary number of employees involved in the decision-making within the framework of the asylum procedure (including the Dublin Regulation). The explanation for this is that it would not be possible to hire this amount of employees because it would reach the limits of the absorption capacity of the organisation in terms of for instance training and buildings.</p> <p>However, it is possible to calculate the number of employees necessary by considering the average output of an employee, taking into account variables like the different 'treatment tracks'[1] in the procedure as well as the expected inflow of asylum seekers. Currently, the Multiannual Production Forecast (Meerjaren Productie Prognose - MPP) of the Directorate-General for Migration (Directoraat-Generaal Migratie – DGM) is used to estimate the number of employees required. The MPP contains insights into the expected situation for the migration chain based on current understanding, assumptions, risks and uncertainties.[2] Hence, there is the ability to indicate what is expected to deliver in terms of production. Currently, the expected production on asylum is lower than the inflow.</p> <p>[1] Dienst Terugkeer en Vertrek, 'Behandelsporen', https://www.dienstterugkeerenvertrek.nl/over-dtv/leidraad-terugkeer-en-vertrek/de-asielprocedure/behandelsporen, last accessed on 16 August 2023.</p> <p>[2] Rijksoverheid, 'Meerjaren Productie Prognose (MPP) 2022-2', https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/rapporten/2022/11/04/tk-bijlage-1-mpp-rapportage-t-b-v-topberaad#:~:text=De%20Meerjaren%20Productie%20Prognose%20(MPP,%2C%20aannames%2C%20risico%27s%20en%20onzekerheden, last accessed on 16 August 2023.</p>
	EMN NCP	Yes	<p>1. Poland applies the so-called single asylum procedure. Thus, in the course of the procedure for granting international protection, not only the fulfillment of the conditions for recognition as a refugee is examined,</p>


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	<p>Poland</p>	<p>but also - if it is found that they are not fulfilled - other circumstances resulting in protection before the foreigner is obliged to return.</p> <p>Applications for international protection are submitted through the Border Guard and are decided in the first instance by the Head of the Office for Foreigners. In cases of granting international protection, appeals against the decision of the Head of the Office are considered by the Refugee Board.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>Institution/services performs following duties regarding examination of asylum applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Interviewing of asylum seekers Department for Refugee Proceedings, Office for Foreigners b) analysis of information on the country of origin of the applicants: Department for Refugee Proceedings, Office for Foreigners c) preparation of decisions: Department for Refugee Proceedings, Office for Foreigners d) application of the Dublin Regulation: Department for Refugee Proceedings, Office for Foreigners e) issuance of identity documents (including renewals): Customer Service Bureau, Office for Foreigners f) payment of benefits: Department for Social Assistance, Office for Foreigners <p>3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In 2020 <u>25</u> (number of employees) prepared <u>3491</u> (number) decisions. b. In 2021 <u>34</u> (number of employees) prepared <u>4689</u> (number) decisions. c. In 2022 <u>n/i</u> (number of employees) prepared <u>n/i</u> (number) decisions. <p>Please be informed that at the moment we do not have data for 2022. Below is the data for previous years. Number of staff processing applications for international protection: 2014 – 39, 2015 – 35, 2016 – 41, 2017 – 42 , 2018 – 36 , 2019 – 27, 2020 – 25, 2021 – 34. Number of decisions issued: 2014 - 8285, 2015 -12238, 2016 - 11997, 2017- 5347, 2018 – 4445, 2019 – 4000, 2020 - 3491, 2021- 4689.</p> <p>4.</p>
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			<p>There are several critical factors relevant to the efficiency of ongoing proceedings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the number of applicants for international protection, 2. the number of employees processing the applications, 3. the level of the workload of the employee with applications to be processed, 4. the percentage of foreigners who remain in the territory of the Republic of Poland whose proceedings are to end with a decision on the merits. <p>These factors affect both the productivity and efficiency of the proceedings, forming a kind of interconnected system. An increased influx of foreigners applying for international protection will result in an increased caseload of applications to be processed by an employee, thus affecting not only the number of cases handled, but also the duration of proceedings. In turn, a decrease in the number of applicants for protection and an increase in the number of employees processing applications will not automatically guarantee more efficient and effective proceedings if the percentage of foreigners for whom Poland is a destination country increases. Out of the catalog of the above-mentioned factors, three of them (1, 3 and 4) are independent of the Office for Foreigners and, as a rule, rather unpredictable, which means that the only real possibility of managing the efficiency of the conducted proceedings are staffing issues, i.e. the level of employment and training of persons conducting the procedures.</p> <p>When modeling the staffing algorithm we take into account all of the above factors, as well as the nature of the activities undertaken by the employees of the various divisions in the course of their investigations and the specifics of the cases being handled (type of case, mode of investigation, country of origin of the applicant, complexity of the case).</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Portug al</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is only one institution responsible for asylum, where, naturally, all the tasks concerning the analysis/instruction of applications for international protection are concentrated.

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			<p>As far as reception is concerned, the entity responsible is the CPR, through an agreement between this entity and SEF.</p> <p>2. Asylum and Refugees Department / Portuguese Immigration and Borders Service</p> <p>3. a. In 2020 _14_ (number of employees) prepared _95_ (number) decisions. b. In 2021 _13__ (number of employees) prepared _304_ (number) decisions. c. In 2022 _12__ (number of employees) prepared _979_ (number) decisions.</p> <p>4. No</p>
	EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	<p>1. The asylum procedure is within the competence of the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, as a first-instance administrative body, including activities set by the Dublin Regulation. The asylum procedure begins with a declaration by a foreigner at the relevant police department that he/she is applying for asylum or subsidiary protection in the territory of the Slovak Republic. The body implementing the Dublin transfer in practice in close cooperation with the Migration Office is the Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Police Force Presidium.</p> <p>2.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic 2. Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic 3. Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic 4. Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic 5. Depending on which identity document – if this concerns the identity document of asylum applicant it is issued by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic,

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		<p>(however it is considered an identity document only in case the applicant proved his/her identity by other identity document e.g. passport)</p> <p>6. Accommodation, meals, pocket money, hygienic kit, etc. is under the responsibility of the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, so called support centre of the Ministry of Interior (economic support centres in each regional city)</p> <p>7. One time and integration support after granting international protection - Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic (support centres)</p> <p>3. As for the procedural department of the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic this question cannot be answered precisely because of staff fluctuation. At the same time the employees perform also other tasks in addition to processing applications for international protection and decision-making activities. Several decision-makers simultaneously perform the tasks of contact points for individual expert platforms within the EUAA and participate in activities towards EUAA, participate in commenting on legislative proposals by the EU in the field of international protection, cover and implement activities in the field of trafficking in human beings, participate in cooperation in the fight against irregular migration and migrant smuggling, participate in a number of other work tasks related to the internal agenda of the Migration Office, as well as bilateral cooperation with other countries and third-party projects addressing the Migration Office in connection with the topic of asylum and migration, etc. Since the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, these same employees, in addition to decision-making activities, are also responsible for processing the agenda of temporary protection, including registration, termination and processing of temporary protection and providing information and other services in registration centres for people fleeing the war in Ukraine. Decisions on non/granting international protection: 2020 – 422 decisions, 2021 – 419 decisions, 2022 – 673 decisions.</p> <p>As for the Dublin Centre</p>
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			<p>a. In 2020, 71 transfer decisions to the responsible EU Member State were prepared by 6 staff members in accordance with the Dublin Regulation. b. In 2021, 349 transfer decisions to the responsible EU Member State were prepared by 6 staff members (5 staff members as of July) in accordance with the Dublin Regulation. c. In 2022, 5 staff members (4 staff members as of August 2022) prepared 187 transfer decisions to the responsible EU Member State in accordance with the Dublin Regulation. In addition to the above-mentioned decisions under the Dublin Regulation, Dublin Centre staff also issue other Dublin decisions at national level in line with the Asylum Act, such as the decision to suspend the transfer procedure and the decision to discontinue the transfer procedure, which also contributes to the workload.</p> <p>4. Such methodology has not been developed in the Slovak Republic.</p>
	EMN NCP Slovenia	Yes	<p>1. In Slovenia, the Migration Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior covers migration.</p> <p>International protection procedures are handled by the International Protection Procedures Division of the Migration Directorate, which is divided into two sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational affairs section, where applications are received, personal interviews are conducted and the entire procedure as per the Dublin Regulation is carried out; • International protection procedures section, where decisions on applications for international protection are issued (on the merits decision issuing, issuing decisions to stay the procedure or to restrict movement and conduct additional personal interviews if necessary) <p>The Migration Policy and Legislation Division of the Migration Directorate covers information-seeking activities and prepares proposals for normative acts and measures to implement migration policy.</p>

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		<p>The Government Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants provides asylum seekers accommodation, support and psychosocial assistance. Asylum seekers are received by the Reception and Support Division, which provides accommodation at the Asylum Centre or one of its units.</p> <p>2. a: Operational affairs section (International protection procedures section included if needed) b: Country of origin information is collected and prepared by the Migration Policy and Legislation Division, and the analysis of these is made individually in the context of a case-by-case assessment by the asylum application examiner. c: International protection procedures section d: Operational affairs section e: Operational affairs section f: all matters related to payment of benefits are handled by The Government Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants, which is responsible for the accommodation, health care, social care etc. g. /</p> <p>3. 2020 14 employees at International protection procedures section (issuing decisions on asylum applications): 284 in merits decisions, 216 decisions to stay the procedure, 217 restrictions of movement, 54 requests to reopen the procedure. 3 employees at Operational affairs section (handling Dublin procedure cases): 41 Decisions taken as the outcome of Dublin procedure.</p> <p>2021 15 employees at International protection procedures section (issuing decisions on asylum applications): 173 in merits decisions, 3445 decisions to stay the procedure, 71 restrictions of movement, 40 requests to reopen the procedure 4 employees at Operational affairs section (handling Dublin procedure cases): 1390 Decisions taken as the outcome of Dublin procedure.</p>
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			<p>2022</p> <p>12 employees (until May 2022), 9 employees (May- December 2022) – at International protection procedures section (issuing decisions on asylum applications): 344 in merits decisions, 3983 decisions to stay the procedure, 105 restrictions of movement, 34 requests to reopen the procedure.</p> <p>6 employees at Operational affairs section (handling Dublin procedure cases): 2573 Decisions taken as the outcome of Dublin procedure.</p> <p>4. No methodology has been developed.</p>
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