

Pact on Migration and Asylum



Fast and efficient procedures

April 2024 | #MigrationEU

With the Pact on Migration and Asylum in place, fast and efficient procedures for asylum and return, with the necessary individual safeguards, will be in place. The new rules will be stricter with abusive or subsequent applications. Return decisions for those without a right to stay will be issued immediately. Strong legal safeguards will apply, with better support for vulnerable people, like children.

Clear asylum rules

The Asylum Procedure Regulation establishes a common, fair and efficient procedure for deciding on whether to grant international protection, while removing incentives for unauthorised movements across the EU.




- ✓ Simpler and clearer procedure, with reasonable time-limits for applicants to accede to the procedure and for concluding the examination of applications;
- ✓ More attention to vulnerable individuals with special needs.

Guaranteeing people's rights

Under the Asylum Procedure Regulation, there are procedural guarantees safeguarding the rights of applicants:



- ✓ Free legal counselling during the administrative stage of the procedure;
- ✓ Guidance on the administrative stage of the procedure including information on the rights and obligations, assistance for lodging;
- ✓ Free legal assistance and representation during the appeal.




The Reception Conditions Directive will reinforce these provisions. It provides for minimum standards of assistance and reception for asylum applicants by Member States through:

- ✔ Harmonisation of reception standards across Member States to ensure adequate standards of living for those arriving to the EU seeking international protection;
- ✔ Strengthened safeguards and guarantees for asylum seekers: the assessment of specific reception needs must be completed within 30 days and specific guarantees will apply for victims of torture and violence;
- ✔ Increased flexibility and integration processes: asylum seekers with well-founded claims will get access to the labour market after six months.

EU standards for refugee status qualification

The Qualification Regulation will strengthen and harmonise criteria for international protection by:

Fostering greater convergence of asylum practices and decisions:

- 
- ✔ Obligation for Member States to take into account up-to-date EU Agency for Asylum guidance on countries of origin;
 - ✔ Assessing whether there is an internal protection alternative (safe part within the country of origin), and not granting refugee status in such a case;
 - ✔ Withdrawing international protection status when no longer needed or where certain criminal acts are committed or the person otherwise poses a security threat.

Clarifying rights and obligations of beneficiaries:

- ✓ Providing harmonised information to beneficiaries and a clear obligation for Member States to issue residence permits within 90 days in a harmonised format;
- ✓ Reinforcing the rights of unaccompanied minors in terms of information provision in a child-friendly manner.

Preventing abuses

The new rules under the Asylum Procedure Regulation prevent abuse by setting out clear obligations for asylum-seekers to cooperate with the authorities throughout the procedure and by attaching strict consequences to non-compliance. With the new Eurodac database, it will be easier to:

- ✓ Identify people, keep track of double applications;
- ✓ Increase the ability of Member States to prevent secondary movements (unauthorised movements of applicants for international protection from the Member State of arrival to another Member State);
- ✓ Apply the appropriate procedural rules when security challenges are identified.