



REFORMING THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM: WHAT THE INDIVIDUAL REFORMS WOULD CHANGE AND WHY WE NEED THEM NOW

Significant progress has already been made on the overall set of the EU's asylum reform, with 5 out of the Commission's initial 7 proposals ready for adoption. Progress has also been made on the Commission proposal to reform the Dublin Regulation. However, on a number of crucial issues Member States' divergent positions continue to persist and have prevented the start of negotiations with the European Parliament. The Council must now find a way forward based on a spirit of compromise from all sides so that the reform of the Dublin Regulation can be completed.

7 Dublin Regulation

December 2018



Strong added value

The reform of the Dublin Regulation provides a fair and sustainable mechanism for determining the Member State responsible for examining an asylum claim. It is indispensable for the establishment of a future-proof EU asylum system that can stand the test of time and meet challenges old and new.



Agreement not yet reached

European Parliament position adopted. Council still to adopt a negotiation mandate. Political agreement is possible in early 2019.

DUBLIN - A POSSIBLE WAY FORWARD

There is already progress in the Council on the broad contours of a mechanism including financial and material support to Member States under pressure and those taking part in solidarity efforts, as well as priority access to support from EU agencies. A way forward towards a balanced compromise as called for by Leaders at the June European Council could be based on :

Full support

Member States would pledge on a voluntary basis for contributions to one of the 3 central pillars of the EU's migration approach: the external dimension, border protection, or the internal dimension.

Coordination

Cooperative coordination mechanisms would adjust and tailor contributions to the needs on the ground.

Preventing secondary movements

To prevent abuse, the new rules will ensure that asylum requests can only be processed in the Member State determined responsible.

A safety net

For times of particular pressure, affected Member States will have the assurance they will receive real support in the absence of sufficient voluntary pledges.

TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE PREDICTABILITY:

Temporary arrangements could be put in place, foreshadowing some elements of the future system already now. The Commission stands ready to assist Member States with this. Such temporary arrangements could include elements such as:



Predictable arrangements for disembarkation



Efficient workflows and procedures to allow for quick processing of people arriving or being disembarked



Voluntary relocation to other Member States of persons in need of protection



Swift return of those persons not in need of protection and use of detention where needed



Full EU support through EU agencies and the EU budget