

Section 4. Functioning of the Common European Asylum System

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This section provides an overview of developments in legislation, policy, practice and case law in EU+ countries throughout 2022. Concerns about aspects of national asylum and reception systems are included from authorities, civil society organisations, UNHCR and other international organisations.

The sub-sections are organised by theme, following the steps of the asylum procedure:

[4.1 Access to the asylum procedure](#) presents developments surrounding access to territory and the first steps of the asylum procedure, including making, registering and lodging an application.

[4.2 The Dublin procedure](#) takes an in-depth look into the system which sets out the criteria and mechanisms to determine the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection.

[4.3 Special procedures](#) to assess protection needs presents new practices around border procedures, the safe country of origin concept, accelerated procedures, admissibility procedures and subsequent applications.

[4.4 Processing asylum applications at first instance](#) addresses new approaches, measures, working methods and policies, such as prioritisation policies. It presents legislative amendments, technological developments and improvements to the quality of the procedure.

[4.5 Processing asylum applications at second or higher instances](#) presents initiatives to make the procedures at second instance more efficient and details changes on the right to an effective remedy and the processing of cases lodged by specific nationalities.

[4.6 Pending cases](#) discusses the number of applications still under examination, which is a key indicator reflecting the workload experienced by national authorities and the pressure on national asylum systems, including reception systems.

[4.7 Reception](#) of applicants for international protection shows how Member States reacted to trends in international protection in terms of reception capacities and policies.

[4.8 Detention](#) provides an overview of changes in detention capacity, conditions, duration and alternatives to detention.

[4.9 Access to information](#) details new initiatives in information provision throughout the different stages of the asylum process, including information on the procedure and information on everyday life and rights.

[4.10 Legal assistance and representation](#) outlines changes in the provision of free legal counselling and advice to applicants.

[4.11 Interpretation services](#) presents amendments and concerns around the provision of interpretation, including institutional changes and policy updates. Interpretation in the health system is highlighted.

[4.12 Country of origin information](#) briefly describes developments in country of origin (COI) research and production.

[4.13 Statelessness in the context](#) of asylum explores the relationship between statelessness and asylum, highlighting associated challenges.

[4.14 Content of protection](#) presents initiatives taken for the integration of recognised beneficiaries of international protection based on the recast QD.

[4.15 Resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes](#) presents resettlement efforts taken by EU+ countries and developments in the framework of humanitarian admission programmes.



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Access to procedure

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The Dublin procedure

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Special procedures
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Section 4.4.
Processing asylum applications at first instance

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Processing asylum applications at second or higher instances

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Section 4.6.

Pending cases

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Section 4.7.

Reception of applicants for international protection

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Aspects of detention involving asylum applicants and former applicants

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Access to information

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Legal assistance and representation

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Statelessness in the context of asylum

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Content of protection

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Resettlement and humanitarian admissions

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