

3.6.1.2. Adjusting reception capacity and impact on reception conditions

3.6.1.2. Adjusting reception capacity and impact on reception conditions

The significant pressure on the majority of reception systems throughout 2023 had an impact on the conditions in reception. The reasons for challenges were multifaceted and not always caused by a simple increase in the number of applicants.

In some EU+ countries, such as Croatia, Czechia, Slovakia and Slovenia, more applicants arrived but many of them also continued their route after a short time. In others, bottlenecks appeared between different levels of the reception system, for example between the federal state and the federal provincial level in Austria or between the federal and cantonal levels in Switzerland.⁵¹⁷ Increased occupancy in Greek mainland structures slowed down transfers from the islands.⁵¹⁸ Slow outflow from reception centres was a major issue in many countries, including in Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, due to longer asylum procedures, difficulties for recognised beneficiaries of international protection to move to private housing or challenges in implementing Dublin transfers or returns.

The Belgian government and Fedasil continued to look for and adopt measures to ease the pressure on the reception system. In spring 2023, the Council of Ministers approved an increase to reception capacity through the use of EUAA containers, a continued search for new sites, the creation of additional emergency places in Brussels and financial incentives to create small-scale accommodation (ILA/LOI) through social services (CPAS/OCMW). Staff recruitment continued throughout 2023 as well. Exits from reception centres were sped up for rejected applicants and people who had been in the reception system for more than 3 years. The government confirmed that three new public contracts were awarded to private operators and temporarily extended another contract until 15 September 2023.⁵¹⁹

Still, at the end of August 2023, the State Secretary decided to temporarily not accommodate single men in the reception network, anticipating the increase in the number of families and children seeking international protection⁵²⁰ – a decision which was shortly afterwards [suspended](#) by the Council of State as contrary to national legislation. In September 2023, Fedasil needed to resort to emergency accommodation in hostels for families as well.⁵²¹ In order to address these challenges, the Council of Ministers established a special task force with the objective of finding and opening at least 2,000 new temporary places, in addition to the initiatives that were foreseen in the Winter Plan.⁵²² By the end of 2023, over 2,500 asylum seekers were waiting to be included in the reception network.⁵²³

In Croatia, the reception centre in Zagreb worked over capacity and was overcrowded, while the centre in Kutina – originally established to care for applicants with special needs – started to accommodate applicants with other profiles as well. Containers were set up to prepare for emergencies. Authorities planned to open new centres in 2024, including one near the border and under the management of the border police. Reception staff were often overburdened, so the Croatian Red Cross organised a dedicated workshop on the mental health of helpers.⁵²⁴

Expanding reception capacity and improving living conditions were objectives of the Cypriot Ministry of the Interior's migration management plan, including building a new accommodation and pre-departure centre in Limnes (within 24 months with a capacity of 800-1,000 places) and expanding the centre in Kofinou.⁵²⁵The Pournara First Reception Centre was upgraded throughout 2023 with funding from the European Commission, including maintenance, new prefabricated housing units and new equipment.⁵²⁶In its input to this report, ECRE highlighted the urgent need for these works, as reception conditions continued to raise concerns and many applicants remained at risk of destitution and homelessness.⁵²⁷

France opened 4,900 additional reception places in 2023. In its instruction published on 19 April 2023, the Ministry of the Interior determined its priorities: to open as soon as possible the new places created by the budget law, to guarantee the availability of all operators of state-financed places and to reduce the undue presence of beneficiaries of international protection or rejected applicants in the reception system.⁵²⁸The National Assembly noted that nearly 20% of reception places were occupied by residents who should not be accommodated there.⁵²⁹Informal settlements continued to exist in several parts of the country, where both applicants and undocumented migrants gathered. The 2024 national budget foresees a further increase in reception places and a reduction in the unauthorised presence of other groups of residents.⁵³⁰To alleviate the pressure in certain regions, additional ad hoc places were created in 2023, with a total capacity of 500 places.⁵³¹

The Finnish Immigration Service tendered 17 new reception centres in two rounds in autumn and spring 2022, and decided to end the contract with centres in summer 2023.⁵³²The Oulu reception centre was transformed into a registration centre and used by the security authorities due to the situation at the Eastern border (see [Section 3.1](#)), so displaced Ukrainians needed to be moved to other reception centres. The agency acknowledged that the move was organised on a tight schedule and there were some inconveniences to residents, affecting distance to school and employment for example.⁵³³

In Germany, the Association of Cities and Municipalities underlined that many cities and municipalities exceeded their limits to provide accommodation and care for applicants,⁵³⁴while media sources repeatedly reported on overcrowding and alarming conditions in reception facilities in various federal states throughout 2023.⁵³⁵

In its input to this report, ECRE noted that emergency facilities needed to be used for longer periods in some places.⁵³⁶The German authorities underlined that in some cases the available capacity in both the state reception centre and the municipal collective accommodation was temporarily exhausted, making it necessary to consolidate accommodation and create or set up emergency accommodation at short notice. Not all emergency accommodation places could fulfil the standards of collective accommodation, but these were generally used only for a few days until suitable accommodation was found. The enormous efforts of the federal states and local authorities were emphasised, in addition to the willingness of the general population to provide support, especially to displaced Ukrainians.

The Irish government paused the provision of emergency shelter for adult asylum applicants in the City West transit hub in January 2023.⁵³⁷The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHEC) assessed that the state was in breach of its human rights obligations.⁵³⁸UNHCR called for urgent action to avoid that many applicants end up being homeless and destitute.⁵³⁹In an effort to provide a quick solution to the lack of reception places, the government established an Accommodation Working Group to assist the authorities in the agile delivery of accommodation.⁵⁴⁰

The Irish High Court [declared](#) that failure to provide accommodation to a minor applicant was a breach of the country's obligations under the recast RCD and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, Article 1. The court underlined that even when reception capacities are saturated, the government must find alternative measures. The IHEC intervened in two other cases in front of the High Court, underlining the government's obligation to ensure that the basic needs of applicants are met.⁵⁴¹

The Irish Refugee Council published a report on homelessness among international protection applicants and reported that almost 1,400 applicants did not receive accommodation upon arrival between 24 January 2023 – when the government decision entered into force – and 4 June 2023.⁵⁴² In October 2023, UNHCR highlighted that hundreds of applicants continued to be accommodated in tents and underlined that long-term planning for accommodation did not seem to meet the needs.⁵⁴³ The International Protection Integration Fund continued to support local initiatives which aimed to integrate applicants, and in 2023, 70 projects received EUR 1.2 million,⁵⁴⁴ compared to 67 projects receiving EUR 1.6 million in 2022.⁵⁴⁵

Arrivals increased again in Italy, and the Lampedusa hotspot was particularly under pressure.⁵⁴⁶ In order to facilitate the opening and operating of hotspots and government reception centres in Italy, Law No 50/2023 allows for the derogation of certain laws, such as some provisions on public procurement, until 31 December 2025 (similarly to the opening and management of return and repatriation centres (CPRs), *see Section 3.6*). As part of the derogation from the general legal framework, the law also allows the Italian Red Cross to manage the Lampedusa hotspot. To alleviate pressure on hotspots, the law foresees that foreigners can be transferred to similar facilities on the national territory to undergo identification and registration. When government reception centres are full, the prefect may identify temporary reception facilities.⁵⁴⁷ UNHCR expressed concern about the measures and providing adequate reception conditions under the derogations.⁵⁴⁸

Due to the pressure in reception, Italy kept its notification from 2022 on not accepting Dublin transfers throughout 2023 (*see Section 3.2*). The ECtHR found violations of the ECHR, Articles 3 and 13 for an applicant who was transferred from Sicily to the Cona reception centre in May 2016, which was overcrowded, lacked basic facilities such as heating and hot water, and access to medical care, legal and psychosocial support lacked. Civil society organisations, such as the International Rescue Committee, reported on an increased number of homeless applicants staying in informal settlements at the north-east border.⁵⁴⁹

Reception structures in Luxembourg reached near full capacity at the end of 2023 and a waiting list was established for single men. Access to accommodation is evaluated by priority criteria, with applicants with special needs to be included in the reception system with priority. Those on the waiting list are oriented to other social support structures.⁵⁵⁰

To respond to growing arrivals, a new reception centre was opened in Alksne, Latvia, with a capacity of 252 places. The new centre accommodates single people, while the already-existing one, with 450 places, is intended mainly for families.⁵⁵¹ In Bulgaria, the construction of a third safe zone for unaccompanied children started in the Harmanli reception centre (*see Section 4.6.5*), without increasing the overall capacity of the centre.⁵⁵²

Challenges persisted in Luxembourg, mainly because recognised beneficiaries of international protection could not find accommodation on their own. Several new reception structures were opened throughout 2023, both for applicants for international protection and persons with temporary protection.

The need for reception places continued to significantly grow in the Netherlands as well. Based on the forecast at the end of 2023, COA needed to arrange for 96,000 reception places by 1 January 2025, including more places for unaccompanied children (8,000). As many emergency places were set to close, the forecast meant that COA needs to create 52,900 reception places by the end of 2024. COA noted that the expected increase was not necessarily due to a corresponding increase in the number of new applications for international protection, but rather residents staying longer in reception as there was an important backlog in the processing of applications (*see Section 3.4*). In addition, the number of beneficiaries of international protection stuck in reception was also expected to rise, to approximately 21,000 persons. The COA director noted that an important acceleration of outflow would be required.⁵⁵³ The agency started a live blog in September 2023, in order to document the new arrivals and the arising needs for reception places as they happened, focusing on the situation at the Ter Apel application centre, where asylum seekers are directed to

complete the first steps of the procedure.[554](#)

The pressure was especially hard on the central reception facility in Ter Apel, at times 700 people waiting for the identification and registration process.[555](#) Following up on the highly-mediatised tragedy when a baby died at the emergency shelter at Ter Apel, the Health and Youth Care and the Justice and Security Inspectorates found that a relationship could not be established between the conditions in the sports hall where the family was accommodated and the baby's death. The report also underlined that there was no connection to the care provided or access to care. The Justice and Security Inspectorate also indicated that COA employees did everything within their capabilities.[556](#) In June 2023, a waiting room was opened in Assen to accommodate new arrivals and relieve the pressure on Ter Apel.[557](#) Deteriorating reception conditions in emergency reception facilities raised alarm throughout the year.[558](#)

Difficulties in implementing Dublin transfers contributed to bottlenecks in the Netherlands, and several measures were undertaken to speed up procedures (see *Sections 3.2 and 3.4*). New process availability facilities (*proces beschikbaarheidslocaties*, PBL) were piloted to swiftly process Dublin cases and efficiently implement transfers.[559](#)

Scaling up the reception capacity continued in Norway, and agreements were concluded for additional ordinary reception centres and emergency accommodation places.[560](#) To reflect changes in administrative practices, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security issued new instructions to the UDI on applicants' accommodation. The document outlines the roles and responsibilities of the different authorities involved in the reception process and highlights the need to provide suitable accommodation as part of an efficient and flexible reception system.[561](#) Expanded reception capacity required more training, both for UDI staff acting as contact points for reception centres and staff employed in reception centres.

The Portuguese Santa Casa de Misericórdia de Lisboa (SCML) provides second-line reception for applicants, and the organisation observed increasing difficulties in ensuring accommodation for applicants in 2023, especially in urban areas. When contracted reception places are full, the organisation provides material reception conditions in cash, but due to a shortage in affordable rentals in the private housing market, applicants find it more and more difficult to secure decent living conditions.[562](#)

In Romania, capacity in regional reception centres was expanded with containers, and a new centre was planned to be opened in Crevedia, Dâmbovi?a County, with a capacity of 500 places. Renovation works were ongoing in several centres to maintain good conditions. The Romanian National Council for Refugees, a civil society organisation, observed that capacity and conditions remained stable in 2023.[563](#) UNHCR observed an important gap in essential services to applicants, when AMIF-funded services ceased in October 2023 due to the end of the funding cycle and were expected to re-start only later in 2024 with the new funding cycle.

Authorities in Slovenia also faced challenges to provide durable reception places for applicants. Several calls were launched throughout 2023, but no suitable tenders were submitted. UNCAT recommended that authorities intensify efforts to reduce overcrowding and improve material conditions in reception facilities.[564](#)

In Spain, authorities continued to work to increase reception capacity under the network of reception centres under the Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration (centres for international protection, *centros de acogida de protección internacional*, CAPI). In addition, several humanitarian assistance centres were opened throughout 2023, and works started for the operationalisation of more centres in 2024. The civil society organisation CEAR welcomed these developments, as well as the rapid referrals and transfers from the Canary Islands to the mainland, which resulted in a stable situation.[565](#) Still, the Spanish Ombudsman continued to receive complaints from applicants who were not assigned an accommodation.[566](#)

Cooperation with local municipalities has grown over the years across EU+ countries, resulting in innovative solutions for the reception of applicants for international protection.[567](#) However, authorities at times faced hostilities – extensively documented in media sources – when trying to arrange new facilities, for example in

Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands and Spain.

517 State Secretariat for Migration | Staatssekretariat für Migration | Secrétariat d'État aux migrations | Segreteria di Stato della migrazione. (2023, April 26). *Le Conseil fédéral prend des dispositions pour gérer le nombre croissant de demandes d'asile [The Federal Council is taking steps to deal with the growing number of asylum applications]*.

518 Mobile Info Team, & Refugee Legal Support. (November 2023). *Protection Unavailable: Dysfunctional Practices and Restrictions on the Right to Asylum: Assessing the implementation of reception and identification procedures on mainland Greece*.

519 Federal agency for the reception of asylum seekers | L'Agence fédérale pour l'accueil des demandeurs d'asile | Federaal agentschap voor de opvang van asielzoekers. (2023, March 17). *Mesures pour soulager le réseau de Fedasil [Measures to relieve the Fedasil network]*.

520 Federal agency for the reception of asylum seekers | L'Agence fédérale pour l'accueil des demandeurs d'asile | Federaal agentschap voor de opvang van asielzoekers. (2023, August 30). *Pas d'accueil pour les hommes isolés [No reception for single men]*.

521 Federal agency for the reception of asylum seekers | L'Agence fédérale pour l'accueil des demandeurs d'asile | Federaal agentschap voor de opvang van asielzoekers. (2023, September 14). *Des familles accueillies en urgence [Families received in emergency]*.

522 Federal agency for the reception of asylum seekers | L'Agence fédérale pour l'accueil des demandeurs d'asile | Federaal agentschap voor de opvang van asielzoekers. (2023, October 4). *Une task force pour des places d'accueil [A task force for reception places]*.

523 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2023, December 21). *UNHCR calls for short and long-term solutions that safeguard the rights of asylum seekers in Belgium - UNHCR Belgique et Luxembourg*.

524 Croatian Red Cross | Hrvatski Crveni Križ. (2023, October 9). *"Ako brinemo o sebi, kvalitetnije brinemo i o drugima" ["If we take care of ourselves, we take better care of others."]*.

525 Ministry of the Interior | ?????????? ??????????. (2023, June 6). ?????????? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????? ?????? ?? ?????????????? [Minister of Interior held Press Conference on migration]. <https://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/moiup/moi.nsf/All/AE327B56489CA835C22589C800170840?OpenDocument>

Ministry of the Interior | ?????????? ??????????. (2023). *Instrumentalisation of Migration and Action Plan on Eastern Mediterranean*.

526 Ministry of the Interior | ?????????? ??????????. (2024, March 26). ? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????? ?? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????? «????????» [The Minister of Interior visited the First Reception Centre "Pournara"].

https:/

527 European Council on Refugees and Exiles. (2024). Input to the Asylum Report 2024.

528 Instruction du 19 avril 2023 relative au pilotage du parc d'hébergement des demandeurs d'asile et des réfugiés en 2023 [Instruction of 19 April 2023 on the piloting of the reception capacity for asylum seekers and refugees in 2023], April 19, 2023.

529 French National Assembly | Assemblée nationale. (2024, March 26). *Rapport n°1745 - Annexe 28.*

530 Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty | Ministère de l'Économie, des Finances et de la Souveraineté industrielle et numérique. (2023, October 3). *Budget général 2024 - Immigration, asile et intégration* [General budget 2024 - Immigration, asylum and integration].
<https://www.budget.gouv.fr/documentation/documents-budgetaires/exercice-2024/le-projet-de-loi-de-finances-et-les-documents-annexes-pour-2024/budget-general-2024/immigration-asile-et-integration>

Forum réfugiés. (2023, November 20). *En 2024, un budget de l'asile qui poursuit sa hausse* [In 2024, an asylum budget that continues to increase].

531 State Services in the Doubs | - Les services de l'État dans le Doubs. (2023, February 17). *Avis d'appel à projets pour la création du SAS régional de Bourgogne Franche-Comté d'une capacité de 50 places en 2023* [Notice of call for projects for the creation of the Bourgogne Franche-Comté regional SAS with a capacity of 50 places in 2023].

<https://www.doubs.gouv.fr/contenu/telechargement/38589/262893/file/avis%20et%20CC%20AAP%2050%20places>

French National Assembly | Assemblée nationale. (2024, March 26). Rapport n°1745 - Annexe 28.

532 Finnish Immigration Service | Maahanmuuttovirasto. (2023, May 26). *Maahanmuuttovirasto kilpailutti jälleen vastaanottokeskustoimintaa – avaa 17 uutta keskusta* [Second set of reception centre operations put out to tender, 17 new reception centres to open]. https://migri.fi/-/maahanmuuttovirasto-kilpailutti-jalleen-vastaanottokeskustoimintaa-avaa-17-uutta-keskusta?languageId=en_US

Finnish Immigration Service | Maahanmuuttovirasto. (2023, July 6). *Maahanmuuttovirasto irtisanoo kahdeksan vastaanottokeskusta* [Finnish Immigration Service terminates its contracts with eight reception centres].

533 Finnish Immigration Service | Maahanmuuttovirasto. (2023, November 25). *Oulun vastaanottoyksikön toiminta muuttuu – ukrainalaisille uusia asuntoja seudulta* [Oulu reception centre operations change – Ukrainian refugees to be relocated within the region].

534 German Association of Towns and Municipalities | Deutscher Städte- und Gemeindebund. (2023, November 6). *Erwartungen an die MPK: Neustart in der Migrationspolitik – Begrenzen, steuern, ordnen und langfristig finanzieren* [Expectations of the MPK A new start in migration policy – limiting, controlling, regulating and financing in the long term].

535 See for example: InfoMigrants (2023, October 24). *Germany: Reception center reopens but pressure on asylum facilities remains high*. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/52769/germany-reception-center-reopens-but-pressure-on-asylum-facilities-remains-high>

InfoMigrants. (2023, October 16). *Are growing asylum claims putting Germany under pressure?*

536 European Council on Refugees and Exiles. (2024). Input to the Asylum Report 2024.

537 Government of Ireland | Ríaltas na hÉireann. (2023, January 24). *Citywest Transit Hub to pause entry of new International Protection arrivals to its emergency accommodation area* [Press release].

538 Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission. (2023, January 27). *State in Clear Breach of Human Rights Obligations to International Protection Applicants*. <https://www.ihrc.ie/state-in-clear-breach-of-human-rights-obligations-to-international-protection-applicants/>

539 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2023, January 19). *UNHCR calls for urgent action to avoid large numbers of asylum-seekers being left homeless and destitute*.

540 Government of Ireland | Ríaltas na hÉireann. (2023, March 3). *Accommodation strategy for people seeking protection in Ireland* [Press release].

541 Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission. (2023, February 6). *Commission Publishes Legal Arguments in High Court International Protection Cases*. <https://www.ihrc.ie/commission-publishes-legal-arguments-in-high-court-international-protection-cases/>

David Leonard, & Rosario Boyle SC (Eds.). *The High Court Judicial Review in the matter of Directive 2013/33/EU and the EU Reception Conditions) Regulations 2018*.

542 Irish Refugee Council. (June 2023). *“Now I Live on the Road”: The experience of homeless international protection applicants in Ireland*.

543 O'Neill, E. (2023, October 18). “Refugee accommodation shortage merits public concern and debate”. *The Irish Times*.

544 Government of Ireland | Ríaltas na hÉireann. (2023, July 21). *Minister Joe O’Brien announces 70 projects to be funded under the International Protection Integration Fund 2023* [Press release].

545 European Union Agency for Asylum. (2023). *Asylum Report 2023*.

546 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2023, July 26). *UNHCR e UNICEF: un cambio di passo a Lampedusa. La forte pressione migratoria mette alla prova i risultati finora raggiunti* [*UNHCR and UNICEF: a change of pace in Lampedusa. Strong migratory pressure puts what has been achieved so far to the test*]. <https://www.unhcr.org/it/notizie-storie/notizie/unhcr-e-unicef-un-cambio-di-passo-a-lampedusa-la-forte-pressione-migratoria-mette-all-a-prova-i-risultati-finora-raggiunti/>

European Council on Refugees and Exiles. (2024). Input to the Asylum Report 2024.

547 DECRETO-LEGGE 10 marzo 2023, n. 20 Disposizioni urgenti in materia di flussi di ingresso legale dei lavoratori stranieri e di prevenzione e contrasto all'immigrazione irregolare [Decree -Law no. 20 of 10 March 2023 Urgent provisions on the legal entry flows of foreign workers and the prevention and fight against immigration irregular], OJ General Series (2023).

https:/

548 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2023, October 17). *Audizione informale dell’UNHCR nell’ambito dell’esame del disegno di legge C. 1458 di conversione in legge del decreto-legge*

n. 133 del 2023, recante disposizioni urgenti in materia di immigrazione e protezione internazionale, nonché per il supporto alle politiche di sicurezza e la funzionalità del Ministero dell'interno [UNHCR Informal Hearing as Part of the Consideration of Bill C. 1458 of Conversion into law of Decree-Law No 133 of 2023, containing urgent provisions in immigration and international protection, as well as for the support of security policies and functionality of the Ministry of the Interior].

549 International Rescue Committee. (97/11/2023). *IRC Italy Protection Monitoring Report (July - September 2023)*.

550 Ministry of Family, Solidarity, Living Together and Reception | Ministère de la Famille, des Solidarités, du Vivre ensemble et de l'Accueil. (2022, January 22). *Réponse du ministre de la Famille, des Solidarités, du Vivre ensemble et de l'Accueil à la question parlementaire n°132 de Madame la Députée Joëlle Welfring et de Monsieur le Député Meris Sehovic concernant l'Action Hiver* [Response from the Minister of Family, Solidarity, Living Together and Reception to the parliamentary question No 132 by Mrs Deputy Joëlle Welfring and Mr. Deputy Meris Sehovic on the Winter Action]. <https://wdocs-pub.chd.lu/docs/exped/0144/107/289075.pdf>

Ministry of Family, Solidarity, Living Together and Reception | Ministère de la Famille, des Solidarités, du Vivre ensemble et de l'Accueil. (2024, March 1). *Réponse du ministre de la Famille, des Solidarités, du Vivre ensemble et de l'Accueil à la question parlementaire n°264 de Monsieur le Député David Wagner* [Response from the Minister of Family, Solidarity, Living Together and Reception to the parliamentary question No 264 by Mr Deputy David Wagner].

551 Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs | Pilson?bas un migr?cijas lietu p?rvalde. (2023, July 6). P?rvaldes amatpersonas atkl?šanas viz?t? apmekl? PMIC Liepnas fili?li [Administrative officials visit PMIC Liepna branch during opening visit].

552 State Agency for Refugees with the Council of Ministries | ????????? ????????? ?? ?????????? ??? ?????????? ?????? ?????????????? ??????. (2024, May 15). ??????????????? ?? ?????? ? ??????? ?????? ?????? ???-????????? [UNICEF representative in Bulgaria visited ROC-Harmanli].

553 Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers | Centraal Orgaan opvang asielzoekers. (2023, November 10). *Het COA moet volgend jaar opnieuw fors groeien* [The COA has to grow strongly again next year].

554 [1] Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers | Centraal Orgaan opvang asielzoekers. (2023, December 22). *Status tekort opvangplekken* [Status of shortage of shelter places].

555 Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers | Centraal Orgaan opvang asielzoekers. (2023, May 24). *Nachtopvang aanmeldcentrum Ter Apel loopt vol* [Night shelter application center Ter Apel fills up].

556 Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers | Centraal Orgaan opvang asielzoekers. (2023, June 12). *Reactie COA op de inspectierapporten IGJ en Inspectie JenV rond overlijden baby in Ter Apel* [COA's response to the IGJ and Inspectorate JenV inspection reports on the death of a baby in Ter Apel].

557 Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers | Centraal Orgaan opvang asielzoekers. (2023, June 29). *Expohal Assen in gebruik genomen als wachtkamer voor Ter Apel* [Assen exhibition hall used as a

waiting room for Ter Apel].

558 Ministry of Justice and Security | Ministerie van Justitie en Veiligheid. (2023, December 7). *Brief Onveilige situatie asielopvang Ter Apel [Letter on the unsafe situation of asylum reception in Ter Apel]*. <https://www.inspectie-jenv.nl/Publicaties/brieven/2023/12/07/brief-onveilige-situatie-asielopvang-ter-apel>

Ministry of Justice and Security | Ministerie van Justitie en Veiligheid. (2024, March 26). *Brief Inspecties: Situatie in Ter Apel is uiterst kritisch [Letter Inspections: Situation in Ter Apel is extremely critical]*.

559 State Secretary for Justice and Security | Staatssecretaris van Justitie en Veiligheid. (2023, May 24). *Actuele situatie Asiel [Current Asylum Situation]* . https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/brieven_regering/detail?id=2023Z09184&did=2023D22065

560 Norwegian Directorate of Immigration | Utlendingsdirektoratet. (2023, July 13). *Nye avtaler om asylmottak [New agreements on asylum reception centres]*. <https://www.udi.no/aktuelt/nye-avtaler-om-asylmottak/>

Norwegian Directorate of Immigration | Utlendingsdirektoratet. (2023, October 11). *Må skaffe flere mottaksplasser og øke bosettingstakten [Need to get more reception places and increase the rate of settlement]*.

561 Ministry of Justice and Public Security | Justis- og beredskapsdepartementet. (2023, March 22). *GI-05/2023 - Instruks til Utlendingsdirektoratet om innkvartering av asylsøkere [GI-05/2023 - Instructions to the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration on accommodation of asylum seekers]*.

562 Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa. (2023). Input to the Asylum Report 2024.

563 Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR) | Consiliul Na?ional Român pentru Refugia?i. (2023). Input to the Asylum Report 2024.

564 United Nations Committee against Torture. (2023, December 7). *Concluding observations on the fourth periodic report of Slovenia*.

565 Comisión Española de Ayuda al Refugiado (CEAR) | Spanish Commission for Refugees. (2023). Input to the Asylum Report 2024.

566 Spanish Ombudsperson | Defensor Del Pueblo. (2023, June 27). *Asignación de un recurso de acogida en materia de protección internacional [Assignment of a reception resource in the field of international protection]*. <https://www.defensordelpueblo.es/resoluciones/asignacion-de-un-recurso-de-acogida-en-materia-de-proteccion-internacional/>

Spanish Ombudsperson | Defensor Del Pueblo. (2023, July 3). *Regulación del sistema de acogida en materia de protección internacional [Regulation of the reception system in the field of international protection]*.

567 European Union Agency for Asylum. (2021). *EASO Asylum Report 2021*. <https://euaa.europa.eu/easo-asylum-report-2021>

European Union Agency for Asylum. (2022). *Asylum Report 2022*.