

4.13.4. Improving the situation of stateless persons

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In 2022, the ENS continued to organise the Stateless Journeys Campaign, an initiative which has developed different tools to support people working with stateless persons, such as guidelines to encourage frontline practitioners to “recognise, record, refer and read up”. Guidelines are currently available on several topics, including children’s right to a nationality, asylum registration and screening, detention and return, family reunification and integration.[1046](#)

In Belgium, the NGO NANSEN produced several reports to inform stateless persons and their legal representatives. The reports are available in French on their website and cover topics such as: the treatment of Palestinians in Gaza and the need to grant them international protection,[1047](#) the right to Belgian nationality for children of Palestinian origin,[1048](#) statelessness among members of the Bidoun community in Kuwait and their need for protection,[1049](#) and how to prevent the children of Ukrainian refugees in Belgium from becoming stateless.[1050](#)

In Bulgaria, the Foundation for Access to Rights organised an online webinar entitled “Palestinian Refugees Seeking Protection in Bulgaria: Practical issues and recent case law” in September 2022. The organisation also produced a [report](#) on practical problems in the international protection system in Bulgaria and the application of Article 1(D) of the 1951 Convention.[1051](#)

In the Netherlands, Asylos implemented a project to address information gaps for stateless persons. The organisation also worked on the production of a COI report on the situation of stateless Palestinians in Lebanon and a principles document for conducting COI research on statelessness.[1052](#)

In France, OFPRA updated the welcome [booklet](#) in November 2022 aimed at newly-recognised stateless persons.[1053](#) In Malta, the aditus foundation published a [document](#) with a number of proposals in view of the upcoming 2022 national elections. These included recommendations for a new stateless determination procedure.[1054](#)

In March 2022, the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights issued concluding observations on the third periodic report on Czechia. The committee expressed its concern that, under the Aliens Act, the scope of the statelessness determination procedure is limited and it does not provide sufficient legal security for stateless persons. It was also concerned that such persons face difficulties in obtaining permanent

residence, and under the Citizenship Act, children who would otherwise be stateless would only acquire nationality if both parents are stateless and at least one of them has a residence permit (Article 2(2)).[1055](#) Following up on the committee's recommendations, relevant legislative amendments were prepared to the Aliens Act, which are expected to come into force in the second half of 2023.

In May 2022, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination issued its concluding observations on the combined eighteenth to twentieth periodic reports on Luxembourg. The committee noted the absence of specific legislation on statelessness, including on the statelessness determination procedure, and recommended that the authorities consider the adoption of specific legislation.[1056](#) The UNHRC issued its concluding observations on the fourth periodic report on Luxembourg and encouraged the government to adopt legislation regulating the procedure to determine the status of statelessness and that clearly guarantees the right to stay for applicants with a statelessness status and that this right is automatically granted after obtaining the stateless status.[1057](#)

[1046](#) European Network on Statelessness. (2022, December 5). Stateless Journeys: Europe's duty to protect stateless refugees. <https://statelessjourneys.org/>

[1047](#) NANSEN, the Belgian refugee council. (2022, August 2). Apartheid à Gaza ? Le besoin de protection internationale des Palestiniens de Gaza [Apartheid in Gaza ? The need to provide international protection to people from Gaza]. <https://nansen-refugee.be/2022/08/02/apartheid-a-gaza-le-besoin-de-protection-internationale-des-palestiniens-de-gaza/>

[1048](#) NANSEN, the Belgian refugee council. (2022, April 19). Nationalité belge et enfants d'origine palestinienne [Belgian Nationality and children of Palestinian origin]. <https://nansen-refugee.be/2022/04/19/intervision-le-5-mai-nationalite-belge-et-enfants-dorigine-palestinienne/>

[1049](#) NANSEN, the Belgian refugee council. (2022, June 15). Reconnaissance du besoin de protection des Bidoun du Koweit [Recognising the need to protect Bidouns from Kuwait]. <https://nansen-refugee.be/2022/06/15/reconnaissance-du-besoin-de-protection-des-bidoun-du-koweit/>

[1050](#) NANSEN, the Belgian refugee council. (2022, April 14). Enfants de réfugiés ukrainiens en Belgique : prévention de l'apatriodie [Children of Ukrainian Refugees in Belgium: preventing statelessness]. <https://nansen-refugee.be/2022/04/14/enfants-de-refugies-ukrainiens-en-belgique-prevention-de-lapatriodie/>

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[1052](#) Asylos. (2023). Input to the Asylum Report 2023. <https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-02/asylos.pdf>

[1053](#) French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons | Office français de protection des réfugiés et apatrides. (November 2022). Livret d'accueil pour les personnes reconnues apatrides [Welcome Booklet for persons recognised as stateless]. <https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/libraries/pdf.js/web/viewer.html?file=/sites/default/files/2022-12/Livret%20d%27accueil%20apatriodie%20%281%29.pdf>

[1054](#) aditus foundation (2022, February 23). Elections 2022: Creating a More Just Society. https://aditus.org.mt/elections-2022-creating-a-more-just-society/#.Y7_bVP7MJaR

[1055](#) United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. (2022, March 28). Concluding observations on the third periodic report of Czechia. <https://uhri.ohchr.org/Document/File/8e7b781d-018d-4e99-91ae-9ba5f48ab6fd/092B7BA9-53B4-4FEF-864D-01CF2CC46E0E>

[1056](#) United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. (2022, May 16). Concluding observations on the combined eighteenth to twentieth periodic reports of Luxembourg.
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[1057](#) United Nations, Human Rights Committee. (2022, September 14). Concluding observations on the fourth periodic report of Luxembourg [CCPR/C/LUX/CO/4].
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