

New EASO Guidance on asylum procedure: operational standards and indicators

The European Asylum Support Office (EASO) has developed a new Guidance on asylum procedure: operational standards and indicators. This guidance aims to support European Union Member States in the practical implementation of key provisions of the Asylum Procedures Directive (recast) (APD), the legislation that sets out the legal standards on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection. The writing of this guidance arises from the degree of discretion left by the APD on how these legal standards can be implemented. It was drafted by national experts from Member States and was consulted with the European Commission, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the European Council on Refugees and Exiles. The guidance was then formally adopted by the EASO Management Board.

The guidance provides support at multiple levels including policy-making, operational level and national monitoring. At policy level, it serves as a tool to strengthen or further develop national asylum procedures. At operational level, it can be used within the asylum procedure to ensure the effective implementation of key provisions of the APD and to support process improvement initiatives. Finally, the guidance can serve as a reference for the development of national monitoring frameworks and for conducting self-assessments of national procedures on the quality of asylum procedure systems.

The operational standards included in this guidance build on existing practices that can be found within the European Union. As such, this guidance aims at formulating commonly acknowledged operational standards and indicators that are realistic and achievable across all EU Member States, as well as to compile examples of good practice.

The intended impact of this guidance is to support asylum authorities in the achievement of fair and effective asylum procedures, and ultimately to strengthen the Common European Asylum System at an operational level.

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