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3.3.1. Integrity

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Country	Area concerned	Policy & practice
Austria	Content of protection - Withdrawal of international protection	The BFA identified withdrawal procedures as one of the major policy priorities for 2018: 6000 withdrawal procedures initiated in 2018 (fourfold increase from 2017) and international protection status withdrawn in 1600 cases (threefold increase from 2017). The focus is on persons with criminal record. The authority continues with this focus in 2019 as well.
	Return	The BFA identified the return of rejected applicants as one of the major policy priorities for 2018 and aimed to increase significantly the overall rate of returns.
Belgium	Special procedures - Subsequent applications, Content of protection - Withdrawal of international protection	The policy note from the former State Secretary for Asylum and Migration identified two major areas relevant to maintaining the integrity of the asylum system: deterring unfounded subsequent applications, enhanced international cooperation on status withdrawal when beneficiaries of international protection travel back to their country of origin.
Cyprus	Vulnerable applicants - UAM	Improving age assessment (dental examination) procedures through AMIF funding both for carrying out the procedures and for staff training on undertaking these procedures.
Denmark	Return	A new transit centre was established in Avnstrup for applicants who have exhausted all possibilities for appeal.
Finland	Access to procedure	The Finnish Immigration Service and the National Police Guard started the joint implementation of the MISEC project. The project objectives include: strengthening co-operation and information exchange between the immigration and security authorities; improving methods for establishing the identity and background of persons applying for asylum, residence permit and citizenship; developing methods for identifying applicants who may pose a security risk; exploring technological tools available to support these functions.
Germany	Access to information and legal assistance	The BAMF has been implementing a pilot project on procedural counselling during the first instance procedure in eleven BAMF field offices. The evaluation is planned for 2019/2020.
	Access to procedure	The BAMF started using four comprehensive tools to assist decision-makers to establish the identity of applicants: information from electronic information carriers (extraction from mobile devices), biometric language analysis, a technical system for the transcription of names and a system for facial recognition.
Greece	Access to information and legal assistance	A series of informative videos and a mobile application were launched to assist in access to information and the rights of applicants for international protection; which were translated in 18 languages. A new informative booklet was developed for UAM.
Ireland	Special procedures - Safe countries of origin	The International Protection Office published an Addendum to the Information Booklet for Applicants, providing information about the effects of the International Protection Act 2015 (Safe Countries of Origin) Order 2018.
Italy	Reception of applicants for international protection	Ministerial Directive No 4568 of 4 April 2018 requires now reception facilities to report daily about the number of persons receiving material reception conditions.
Latvia	Reception of applicants for international protection	Introduction of a video surveillance and access control system in the accommodation centre.
	Access to information	The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs prepared a document

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