

Please cite as: EUAA, 'Section 4.4. Processing asylum applications at first instance' in *Asylum Report 2023*, May 2023.

Section 4.4. Processing asylum applications at first instance

icon for processing applications at first instance

Section 4.4. Processing asylum applications at first instance

CEAS is based on the principle of common standards to grant and withdraw international protection, while ensuring fair and efficient procedures. The aim is that similar asylum cases are treated in a similar manner in all Member States, leading to uniform decision-making and convergence across the EU, while ensuring that an individual assessment is provided in each case.

The procedures foreseen in the recast APD aim to ensure that decisions on applications for international protection are taken on the basis of facts and by persons with appropriate knowledge and training, after an adequate and complete examination has been undertaken without undue delay and subject to remedies. Within this framework, Member States have established their asylum systems and procedures in various ways.

Read overview...

Section 4.4.1 Reorganisation

4.4.1. Reorganisation and future restructuring

Read more...

Section 4.4.2 Legislation changes

4.4.2. Legislation and policy changes

Read more...

icon for prioritization policies

4.4.3. Case load management and prioritisation policies

Read more...

icon for guidelines on assessment of applications

4.4.4. New general guidelines to assess applications

Read more...

icon for processing of applications from specific nationalities

4.4.5. National policies on cases lodged by specific profiles and nationalities

Read more...

Section 4.4.6 Personal interviews

4.4.6. Personal interviews

Read more...

icon for decisions at first instance

4.4.7. Decisions issued on first instance asylum applications

Read more...

icon for withdrawn applications at first instance

4.4.8. Withdrawn applications

Read more...

icon for quality improvement at first instance decisions

4.4.9. Quality assessment of first instance decisions

Read more...

icon for the length of asylum processes

4.4.10. Length of the asylum procedure before the determining authorities

Read more...

icon for the length of asylum processes

4.4.11. Penalty payments for exceeding the time limit in first instance decision-making

Read more...

icon for digitalisation of first instance procedures

4.4.12. Digitalisation

Read more...

Staff training

4.4.13. Staff training and well-being

Read more...

© European Union Agency for Asylum 2026 | Email: info@euaa.europa.eu