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Section 3.11. Country of origin information

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icon presenting country of origin information

Country of origin information (COI) refers to up-to-date, reliable information on countries of origin, habitual residence, and transit or return countries which is used to assess an application for international protection. 797 COI reports can address various topics in a specific country, for example the socio-economic, legal, political, human rights and humanitarian situation at a given time.

The recast QD, Article 4(3a) specifies that the assessment of an application for international protection must take account of all relevant facts about the applicant's country of origin. Along the same lines, the recast APD, Article 10(3b) stipulates that precise and timely information on the general situation in countries of origin of applicants and, where necessary, in countries through which they have transited is to be obtained from various sources, such as the EUAA, UNHCR, the Council of Europe and other relevant international organisations.

Key developments in the production of COI in 2023 centred around improving methodologies; enhancing cooperation through bilateral, international and European frameworks, as well as with civil society organisations; increasing accessibility to COI by making reports and resources publicly available; and widening the scope of information by addressing specific areas in greater detail.

icon presenting enhancing capacity and improving methodologies

3.11.1. Improving methodologies and practices

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3.11.4. Regions of focus

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