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4. Refugee status

COMMON ANALYSIS | Last update: December 2025

This chapter provides analysis and guidance on the potential international protection needs of selected profiles of applicants. These profiles were selected based on their relevance in the caseload of EU Member States.

The list of profiles addressed in this chapter is non-exhaustive and the fact that a certain profile is included or not is without prejudice to the determination of their protection needs. Furthermore, the order of listed profiles does not reflect any ranking of the potential level of risk of persecution.

While the conclusions under this common analysis provide general guidance, the protection needs of each applicant should be **examined individually**. The non-exhaustive lists of examples with regard to sub-profiles at a differentiated risk and to circumstances, which would normally increase or decrease the risk, are to be taken into account in light of all circumstances in the individual case.

The considerations under each profile should, furthermore, be viewed without prejudice to the credibility assessment of the applicant’s claims. This common analysis deals solely with issues of risk analysis and qualification.

For each profile, the guidance responds to the following questions:

Image

Step 1: Do the reported acts qualify as persecution?
This part provides examples of acts reported to be committed against individuals belonging to the profile as well as guidance on whether such acts would reach the level of persecution according to Article 9 QD/QR.
Step 2: What is the level of risk of persecution?
This part assesses how likely it is for applicants within the profile to have a well-founded fear of persecution. Further guidance is provided with regard to the circumstances which should be taken into account in the individual assessment, addressing also how they would impact the risk.
Step 3: Is there a ground for persecution?
This part provides guidance on whether in case of established well-founded fear of persecution, this would be connected to a reason falling within the provision of Article 10 QD/QR (nexus).

Relevant COI is also included in the analysis to substantiate the assessment provided. Links to the relevant EUAA COI reports and/or queries are also added.

For more guidance on how to read the following subsections, see ‘EUAA, 'Refugee status' in *Country Guidance: Explained*, February 2025’.

The contents of this part include:

- *4. Refugee status*
  - 4.1. Persons associated with the former Government of Syria
    - 4.1.1. (Former) members of Assad’s armed forces and pro-Assad armed groups
    - 4.1.2. Former Assad government officials and other civilians who (are perceived to) have collaborated with the Assad regime
  - 4.2. Persons perceived to be opposing the Transitional Government
  - 4.3. Profiles related to military service
  - 4.4. Persons fearing forced or child recruitment by Kurdish-led forces
  - 4.5. Persons perceived to be opposing the SDF/YPG
  - 4.6. Persons with perceived links to ISIL
  - 4.7. Journalists and other media professionals
  - 4.8. Individuals perceived to have transgressed religious/moral laws, norms or codes
  - 4.9. Ethno-religious groups
    - 4.9.1. Sunni Arabs
    - 4.9.2. Kurds
    - 4.9.3. Druze
    - 4.9.4. Alawites
    - 4.9.5. Christians

        - 4.9.6. Palestinians
    - 4.10. Women and girls
    - 4.11. Children
    - 4.12. Persons with diverse SOGIESC

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