

Input by civil society organisations to the Asylum Report 2026

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Dear Colleagues,

The production of the Asylum Report 2026 is currently underway. The annual [Asylum Report](#) presents an overview of developments in the field of international protection in Europe.

The report includes information and perspectives from various stakeholders, including experts from EU+ countries, civil society organisations, researchers and UNHCR. To this end, we invite you, our partners from civil society, academia and research institutions, to share your reporting on developments in asylum law, policies or practices in 2025 by topic as presented in the online survey (**‘Part A’ of the form**).

We also invite you to share with us any publications your organisation has produced throughout 2025 on issues related to asylum in EU+ countries (**‘Part B’ of the form**). These may be reports, articles, recommendations to national authorities or EU institutions, open letters and analytical outputs. Your input can cover information for a specific EU+ country or the EU as a whole. You can complete all or only some of the sections.

Please note that the Asylum Report does not seek to describe national systems in detail but rather to present key developments of the past year, including improvements and challenges which remain.

All submissions are publicly accessible. For transparency, contributions will be published on the EUAA webpage and contributing organisations will be listed under the [Acknowledgements](#) of the report.

All contributions should be appropriately referenced. You may include links to supporting material, such as analytical studies, articles, reports, websites, press releases, position papers. Some sources of information may be in a language other than English. In this case, please cite the original language and, if possible, provide one to two sentences describing the key messages in English.

The content of the Asylum Report is subject to terms of reference and volume limitations. Contributions from civil society organisations feed into EUAA’s work in multiple ways and inform reports and analyses beyond the Asylum Report.

NB: Similarly to last year, this year's edition of the Asylum Report will be leaner and more analytical, with streamlined thematic sections. The focus will be on key trends in the field of asylum rather than on individual developments. For this reason, information shared by respondents to this call may be incorporated in the Asylum Report in a format different than in the past years. It will also feature prominently as info boxes in the [country overviews](#).

Your input matters to us and will be much appreciated!

Please submit your contribution to the Asylum Report 2026 by Friday, 9 January 2026.

Contact details

* Name of organisation

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Name and title of contact person

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I accept the provisions of the EUAA [Legal and Privacy Statements](#)

General observations

Before sharing information by thematic area, please provide your general observations on asylum developments as indicated in the following three fields:

What areas would you highlight where important developments took place in the country/countries you cover?

Brief overview for political decision-makers (migration, asylum, integration 2025)

- Security and trust crisis: Acts of violence (Aschaffenburg, Oldenburg) intensify debates about Dublin returns, mental health care for refugees, and racist police violence. Social polarization increases.
- Political shifts in the Bundestag: For the first time, a majority is achieved with votes from the AfD (CDU/CSU migration motion). The AfD is classified as a confirmed right-wing extremist party by the Office for the Protection of the Constitution (legally suspended for the time being).
- More restrictive asylum and migration policy:
 - o Resettlement programs and the Afghanistan admission program are halted.
 - o Suspension of family reunification for persons entitled to subsidiary protection (2 years).
 - o Border rejections ordered, later ruled unlawful by the courts.
 - o Cuts in civilian sea rescue operations.
 - o Expansion and accelerated determination of safe countries of origin.
- Social and residence rights: Ukrainians entering the country will no longer receive citizen's income from April 2025. Debate on the return of Syrian refugees after Assad's fall gains momentum, asylum rejections increase.
- The situation at the local level is easing in some areas: the housing situation is improving, but remains challenging for the majority of municipalities.
- European framework: the EU agrees on the implementation of the GEAS with a solidarity pool (21,000 people from 2026), an EU list of safe countries of origin, and options for asylum procedures in third countries

What are the areas, where only few or no developments took place?

Refugee women in Germany continue to be disproportionately affected by violence and face significant legal, structural, and practical barriers to accessing protection and assistance. There is a lack of consistent implementation of the Istanbul Convention.

Key problems:

- Multiple exposure to violence:

Refugee and migrant women experience both gender-based and racist violence – in public spaces, in collective accommodation, and in the home. State protection mechanisms often fail to take effect.

- Right of residence as a factor in violence:

The duration of marriage (§ 31 AufenthG) often forces women affected by violence to remain in the marriage for up to three years in order to obtain an independent right of residence.

- o Hardship provisions are difficult to access, and the burden of proof lies with the victims.

- o Psychological, economic, and digital violence are often not recognized.

- o Dependence on the partner is exacerbated by uncertain residence status.

- Barriers to accessing shelters:

- o Residence requirements often prevent quick access to women's shelters.

- o There are still too few places in women's shelters, no reliable funding for language mediation, and underfunded psychosocial care.

- o The Violence Assistance Act (February 2025) is welcomed, but will only have an effect in the long term.

- Accommodation that promotes violence:

Collective accommodation is often unsafe (lack of privacy, inadequate safety standards, no lockable sanitary facilities). Binding standards for protection against violence are lacking in many places.

- Restricted access to healthcare:

Due to the tightening of the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act (2024), refugees are excluded from regular healthcare for three years. Traumatized women often do not receive adequate medical or psychological help.

Would you have any observations to share specifically about the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum in the national context of the country/ countries you cover?

Despite significant regulations to better identify and address vulnerability within the framework of the GEAS reform, there is a lack of comprehensive and coherent consideration of gender-specific needs. In addition, effective implementation is at risk of failing due to, among other things, the existing discretionary powers for Germany. As a result, even stricter measures are being taken to implement the GEAS, with far-reaching consequences for the rights of vulnerable persons, particularly from a gender-specific perspective. Germany is thus falling far short of its obligations under international and European law with regard to gender-responsive migration and refugee policy. In particular, this does not enable the protection of vulnerable groups, especially those affected by intersectionality.

PART A: Contributions by topic

Please share your reporting on developments in asylum law, policies or practices in 2025 by topic.

Kindly make sure that you provide information on:

- New developments and improvements in 2025 and new or remaining challenges;
- Changes in legislation, policies or practices, or institutional changes during 2025.

1. Access to territory and access to the asylum procedure (including first arrival to territory and registration, arrival at the border, application of the non-refoulement principle, the right to first response (shelter, food, medical treatment) and issues regarding border guards)

The number of asylum applications in Germany is declining. After an increase in 2023, significantly fewer applications were submitted in 2024 and up to August 2025, and fewer were approved: the so-called protection rate is lower.

Between January and November 2025, 23,101 revocation proceedings were initiated. The BAMF decided on over 41,887 cases: in approximately 7 percent of cases, refugee status was revoked or withdrawn.

The federal government continues to turn away people seeking protection at Germany's borders and is intensifying these practices despite clear court rulings that deem them unlawful. As a result, many of those affected have effectively lost their right to an asylum procedure.

Since May 2025, over 21,500 people have been turned away at the borders, often without the opportunity to apply for asylum or be heard.

2. Access to information and legal assistance (including counselling and representation)

As KOK is focusing on trafficking in human beings our counselling centers offer a very specific insight. We've published it in KOK's data report.

3. Provision of interpretation services (e.g. introduction of innovative methods for interpretation, increase/decrease in the number of languages available, change in qualifications required for interpreters)

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4. Dublin procedures (including the organisational framework, practical developments, suspension of transfers to selected countries, detention in the framework of Dublin procedures)

Since June 2025, so-called Dublin cases no longer receive temporary residence permits. Instead, they will receive a “Dublin procedure certificate” and their residence permits will be stamped as invalid. This affects refugees whose asylum applications have been rejected as inadmissible in Germany due to the jurisdiction of another European country, who have been issued with a deportation order and whose urgent application has not been granted by the court.

The immigration authorities are responsible for this procedure.

It is quite clear that this procedure is intended to initiate the exclusion from benefits under Section 1 (4) of the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act (AsylbLG). The exclusion from benefits only applies to Dublin cases without temporary suspension of deportation. The exclusion from benefits is considered unlawful by many social courts.

5. Special procedures (including border procedures, procedures in transit zones, accelerated procedures, admissibility procedures, prioritised procedures or any special procedure for selected caseloads)

The refusal of entry to persons seeking protection at the German borders ordered by the federal interior ministry has been alarming. While Germany must carry out a separate assessment as to whether the individual is at risk of persecution or inhuman treatment in another state in every case. This same procedure is mandatory for persons subjected to human trafficking: Germany has an obligation to identify human trafficking victims who are seeking protection and refer them to protection and support structures.

6. Reception of applicants for international protection (including information on reception capacities – increase/decrease/stable, material reception conditions - housing, food, clothing and financial support, contingency planning in reception, access to the labour market and vocational training, medical care, schooling and education, residence and freedom of movement)

7. Detention of applicants for international protection (including detention capacity – increase /decrease/stable, practices regarding detention, grounds for detention, alternatives to detention, time limit for detention)

8. Procedures at first instance (including relevant changes in: the authority in charge, organisation of the process, interviews, evidence assessment, determination of international protection status, decisionmaking, timeframes, case management - including backlog management)

9. Procedures at second instance (including organisation of the process, hearings, written procedures, timeframes, case management -including backlog management)

10. Issues of statelessness in the context of asylum (including identification and registration)

11. Children and applicants with special needs (special reception facilities, identification mechanisms/referrals, procedural standards, provision of information, age assessment, legal guardianship and foster care for unaccompanied and separated children)

People subjected to human trafficking and labour exploitation have a right to support, effective protection from those who trafficked or exploited them and appropriate accommodation. Yet it is often not possible for the specialised counselling centres and the authorities to find shelters intended specifically for victims of trafficking or exploitation. Instead, they have to be placed in hotels, women’s shelters or accommodation intended for asylum seekers. Finding appropriate and safe accommodation for men, queer persons, couples and for larger groups in cases of labour exploitation is particularly difficult.

12. Content of protection (including access to social security, social assistance, healthcare, housing and other basic services; integration into the labour market; measures to enhance language skills; measures to improve attainment in schooling and/or the education system and/or vocational training)

Only just over four percent of refugees seeking protection in Germany who have experienced war, torture, and violence and have a potential need for care can be treated at the Psychosocial Centers for Refugees and Victims of Torture

13. Return of former applicants for international protection

14. Resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes (including EU Joint Resettlement Programme, national resettlement programme (UNHCR), National Humanitarian Admission Programme, private sponsorship programmes/schemes and ad hoc special programmes)

15. National jurisprudence on international protection in 2025 (please include a link to the relevant case law and/or submit cases to the [EUAA Case Law Database](#))

16. Other important developments in 2025

PART B: Publications

1. If available online, please provide links to relevant publications produced by your organisation in 2025.

<https://www.kok-gegen-menschenhandel.de/serviceangebote/publikationen/detail/summary-of-the-koks-statement-on-the-bmjvs-draft-bill-for-a-law-to-strengthen-the-criminal-prosecution-of-human-trafficking-and-sexual-exploitation-and-to-implement-the-eu-directive-20241712>

<https://www.kok-gegen-menschenhandel.de/serviceangebote/publikationen/detail/kok-annual-review>

<https://www.kok-gegen-menschenhandel.de/serviceangebote/publikationen/detail/2025-kok-report-data-collection-in-the-context-of-trafficking-in-human-beings-and-exploitation-in-germany>

https://www.buendnis-istanbul-konvention.de/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/DE_ONLINE_251120_Alternativbericht_2025_1.pdf

2. If not available online, please share your publications with us at: Asylum.Report@euaa.europa.eu or upload your file using the functionality below (max. file size 1MB).

Please upload your file

The maximum file size is 1 MB

3. For publications that due to copyright issues cannot be easily shared, please provide references using the table below.

| | Title of publication | Name of author | Publisher/Organisation | Date |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | | | | |
| 2 | | | | |
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Useful links

[EUAA Asylum Report 2025 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2025\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2025)

[Executive Summary -Asylum Report 2025 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2025-executive-summary\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-report-2025-executive-summary)

[Sources on Asylum 2025 \(https://euaa.europa.eu/publications/sources-asylum-2025\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/publications/sources-asylum-2025)

[National asylum developments database \(https://euaa.europa.eu/national-asylum-developments-database\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/national-asylum-developments-database)

[International Protection in Europe: a Year in Review \(https://euaa.europa.eu/international-protection-europe-year-review\)](https://euaa.europa.eu/international-protection-europe-year-review)

Background Documents

[Word template to submit input to the 2026 Asylum Report.docx](#)

Contact

[Contact Form](#)